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GREEN scene



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JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2012

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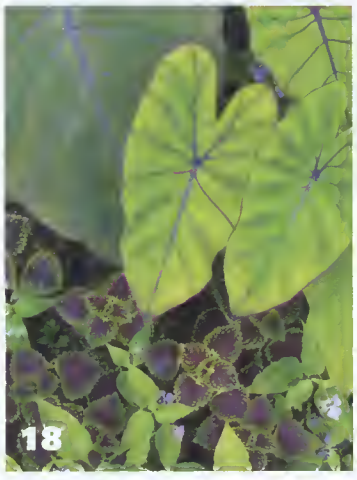
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Along with the e-version of *Green Scene* that members can access on their computers, PHS now offers an **Apple iPad version** of the magazine in brilliant color! When each issue is published, all qualifying members will receive an email containing links to each version.

As a further step, you can help us save the planet and reduce our printing bill by contacting us to **opt out** of the paper version of *Green Scene*. Just send an email to *memserv@pennhort.org* and we'll take care of the rest.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society motivates people to improve the quality of life and create a sense of community through horticulture.

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Photo by Rob Cardillo

Feeling Tropical?

The benefit of adding tropical plants to your garden is twofold: one, it adds quick beauty and two, it's *easy*. Of the many garden improvements one can make in a private landscape, going tropical is perfect for those of us who never seem to have enough time, perhaps because in the tropics, there are no straight lines. A casual feel is perfectly acceptable, and such things as *color* and *texture* prevail over any need for rigid formality.

Before you say, "I don't know anything about tropical plants," the reality is that you probably already use them, but instead call them "annuals" or "houseplants." The trick, however, is to employ them differently in a tropical-themed garden. Instead of just plunking a line of impatiens along the edge of your patio, mix them with big-leafed tender bulbs like canna and elephant ears, which you can put in the ground or in containers (and sometimes ponds, too). You can also take potted hot-house lovelies like zonal geraniums and sink them in the ground among various perennials and foliage plants for the summer. Suddenly, you have a *zing* of color in the garden, and you can easily lift them out when they're done blooming for fall.

In one sense, big-leaf foliage plants provide the "bones" of the tropical garden. Their dramatic architecture and scale can turn any ho-hum planting into a *wow* garden. Better still, there are tons of varieties to choose from: canna and elephant ears, of course, but also yucca, potted banana trees, ginger, cordyline, and any other plant with dotted, striped, or mottled leaves. If you are a more advanced gardener with a knack for keeping tropicals alive in your home or greenhouse, by all means weave in bromeliads, orchids, heliconia, mandevilla, and plumeria into your summer display. Yet don't forget about your basic garden-variety impatiens—they come in all manner of bold, island-flavored colors and are true workhorses of the shade garden.

Another fun dimension for tropical gardens is artwork. If you have some plastic pink flamingoes in the back of your garage, this is the time and place to make those birds work for their keep, especially if you mass them. "Found" art also looks great in the garden, be it a homemade sculpture, porcelain bathroom fixtures (yes, even sinks and tubs can be planted), and bicycles. The rambling, anything-goes nature of a tropical garden is perfect for the creative plants person.

I'd be lying if I told you this Tropical Issue of *Green Scene* isn't intended to whet your appetites for the 2012 Flower Show, *Hawaii: Islands of Aloha (March 4-11)*. But any opportunity we get to rave about tropicals in the garden is fine by us, so we hope you enjoy the issue, which also includes articles on elephant ears and winder-hardy palm trees. And next summer, try a few tropicals in your own garden. You may never look back.

Pete Prown
greenscene@pennhort.org

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Editor
Pete Prown

Senior Editor
Jane Carroll

Display & Classified Ads
Manzo Media Group
610-527-7047
mmanzo@manzomediagroup.com

Art/Design
8axendells' Graphic

Printer
ALCOM Printing Group, Inc.

Chair
John K. Ball

President
Drew Becher

Vice President, Programs
Maitreyi Roy

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The Gourd in Winter

Story by Jessie Keith

Many gardeners view gourds as strictly fall decorations, but their charm extends beyond a single season. The nearly 50 forms of hard-shell gourds serve many creative functions, whether unadorned, painted, or carved. By winter, the fall fruits will have dried to perfection, making them ripe for cold-season crafting and fun. And if you don't have the time to craft, Pennsylvanian artisans offer readymade gourd art aplenty.

Raw, unembellished gourds are beautiful as they are—the more remarkable the shapes, the more striking. Simply cleaning and brushing their surfaces heightens the natural color. A light brush with satin lacquer deepens the color and lends a subtle sheen. With natural gourds, the architecture of the fruits dictates use and placement. One large, fantastically shaped specimen can stand alone like sculpture on a tabletop, while smaller mixed gourds look great in a rustic bowl, along a holiday table, or on a fireplace mantle.

Gourds are perfect for painting. Kitschy designs like gourd snow people, polar bears, or angels are fun, easy to make, and great for crafting with kids. Other easy painted designs include gourd fruits, such as red gourd apples, golden pears, and so on. Place them in decorative "gourdicopias," a term coined by Meadowbrooke Gourds of Carlisle, PA. Tiny gourds embellished with metallic paints or glitter or painted with holiday themes make pretty tree ornaments.

Gourd art really takes shape with carving. Luminaries and birdhouses are the easiest for everyday crafters to make. A Dremel rotary tool fitted with carving bits and a little creativity are all you need. Gourd bowls, vases, purses, and jewelry take more skill to create and can be purchased from local artisans.

Pennsylvania gourd artists are plentiful, but some stand out. Jennifer Avery, the Lititz, PA, artist behind JRA Gourd Art, is one of these. Her works are so beautifully embellished with naturalistic and Celtic-themed carvings that it's hard to believe they're made from simple hard-shell gourds. Most are created for year-round use and enjoyment.

If you want to grow your own gourds, late spring is the time to start these warm-season cucurbits from seed. But you can also buy cleaned or uncleaned gourds online from regional sources, such as Amish Gourds and Foothills Farm. Ardent enthusiasts may also consider joining the Pennsylvania Gourd Society, based in Morgantown, PA.

Easy Gourd Luminary

Materials: Dremel tool fitted with a half-inch circular cutting bit, large metal spoon, LED flameless tea light

Any large, dry, cleaned gourd that can sit upright or hang will do. Cut the top with a beveled edge, as you would a pumpkin, and clean and smooth the interior. Using the Dremel tool, cut out circles across the surface of the gourd, maintaining at least 2 inches between dots. Light with flameless tea lights, never candles.



Jennifer Avery of JRA Gourd Art



Resources

Amish Gourds, amishgourds.com
Foothills Farm, foothillsfarm.com
JRA Gourd Art, jragourdart.com
Meadowbrooke Gourds, gourdfarm.com
PA Gourd Society, pagourdsociety.org

JULY 1, 2010 - JUNE 30, 2011



Letter from the President

19,500
PHS Members
***as of June 30, 2011**

This has been a year of amazing accomplishment at PHS. Thanks to supporters like you, it was a year marked by expanding our reach and finding new ways to meet the challenges and needs of our community. I especially want to welcome the 5,592 new members who joined PHS this year—a record number! It's an exciting time to be part of PHS.

With continued support and commitment from you, our amazing partners, members, sponsors, donors, and volunteers, we'll keep building on this momentum and cooking up innovative ideas, whether it's revitalizing—or creating—the next great civic landscape, turning our Meadowbrook Farm into a national hot-spot for garden design, or creating inventive programs for families. Together, we'll work to engage people of all ages with programs and green spaces that inspire us all.





"I'm in wonderland!"

– Pop singer Patti LaBelle,
2011 Flower Show visitor

PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW

The 2011 Philadelphia International Flower Show, ***Springtime in Paris***, was a smash success. It featured a stunning 30-foot-tall replica of the Eiffel Tower, complete with a dazzling light show and sultry bistro music. Major exhibits featured roses, lavender, delphiniums, tulips, and clematis, as well as whimsical carousel animals decorated with flowers.

Thanks to a robust promotional campaign that included a Flower Show video viewed by more than 30,000 people, attendance soared by 12 percent. The Show drew an estimated 265,000 visitors—all of whom were enchanted by this fragrant journey to France.

A study by KPMG revealed that the Flower Show generates:

- **$62 million**
 economic impact on the Greater Philadelphia Region
- **628**
 full-time jobs (equivalent)
- **$8 million**
 in tax revenues
- **22,641**
 hotel room nights



More than 400 school-children from 46 schools entered the Junior Flower Show at the 2011 Kids Grow Expo, held at Temple University Ambler Campus.

GROWING A GREENER REGION



Planting trees is an investment that pays big dividends, and this year we launched **Plant One Million**, a regional partnership that will train and encourage people to make our region greener and healthier by adding one million trees in 13 counties in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware.

The **PHS Tree Tenders** network, currently numbering 3,800 volunteers, will be central to advancing the campaign. Plans are also underway to create a U.S. Forest Service Urban Field Station at PHS headquarters.



The **PHS Pop Up** projects were a huge hit, bringing the fun of the Flower Show into the streets and calling attention to PHS programs. Especially popular was the urban garden at 20th and Market streets, which turned a long-vacant lot into a green oasis buzzing with activity. It garnered widespread media attention, attracted 6,000 visitors, and inspired appreciative comments from people all over the city.

The garden highlighted our **City Harvest** program, which works with prison inmates, community gardeners, and urban growers to make fresh produce more widely available in under-served neighborhoods.

6,000 people
visited the PHS Pop Up Garden at 20th & Market streets, and the garden produced
600 pounds
of food.



This year saw the completion of a garden rejuvenation at the **Rodin Museum** in downtown Philadelphia, a collaborative project of PHS, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, with funding from The Pew Charitable Trusts. Designed by the landscape architecture firm OLIN, the garden features new hedges and borders, as well as a rich mix of flowering trees and shrubs. It's a fitting landscape for one of the city's cultural gems.

PLANT ONE MILLION
3 states. 13 counties. 1 tree at a time

118,767 TREES
were planted by PHS and its partners this year through Plant One Million.

MEADOWBROOK FARM

Exciting changes have been taking place at Meadowbrook Farm, the PHS-owned garden center located in Abington, PA. For the **2010 Holiday Open House**, we invited guest designer David Fierabend, owner of Groundswell Design Group, to decorate the gift shop and surrounding gardens for the holidays. The **Spring 2011 Open House** was another big day, with sales up more than 37 percent over the previous year's event.

At the 2011 Flower Show, the popular **Meadowbrook Farm Store** enjoyed record-breaking sales. Later in March, we held the first post-Flower Show plant sale exclusively for PHS members, offering more than 500 hardy plants from *Springtime in Paris* exhibits. PHS senior vice president Barrett Robinson, who oversees Meadowbrook Farm, has big plans for the site. "We are looking to develop partnerships with artists, artisans, and cutting-edge designers to expand our line of goods and services," he says. "Meadowbrook Farm will continue to grow as a leader in horticulture and related design services."

Learn more at meadowbrookfarm.org.

For the complete 2011 PHS Annual Report and financial information, visit *PHSonline.org* and click on "About Us," or call 215-988-8800.

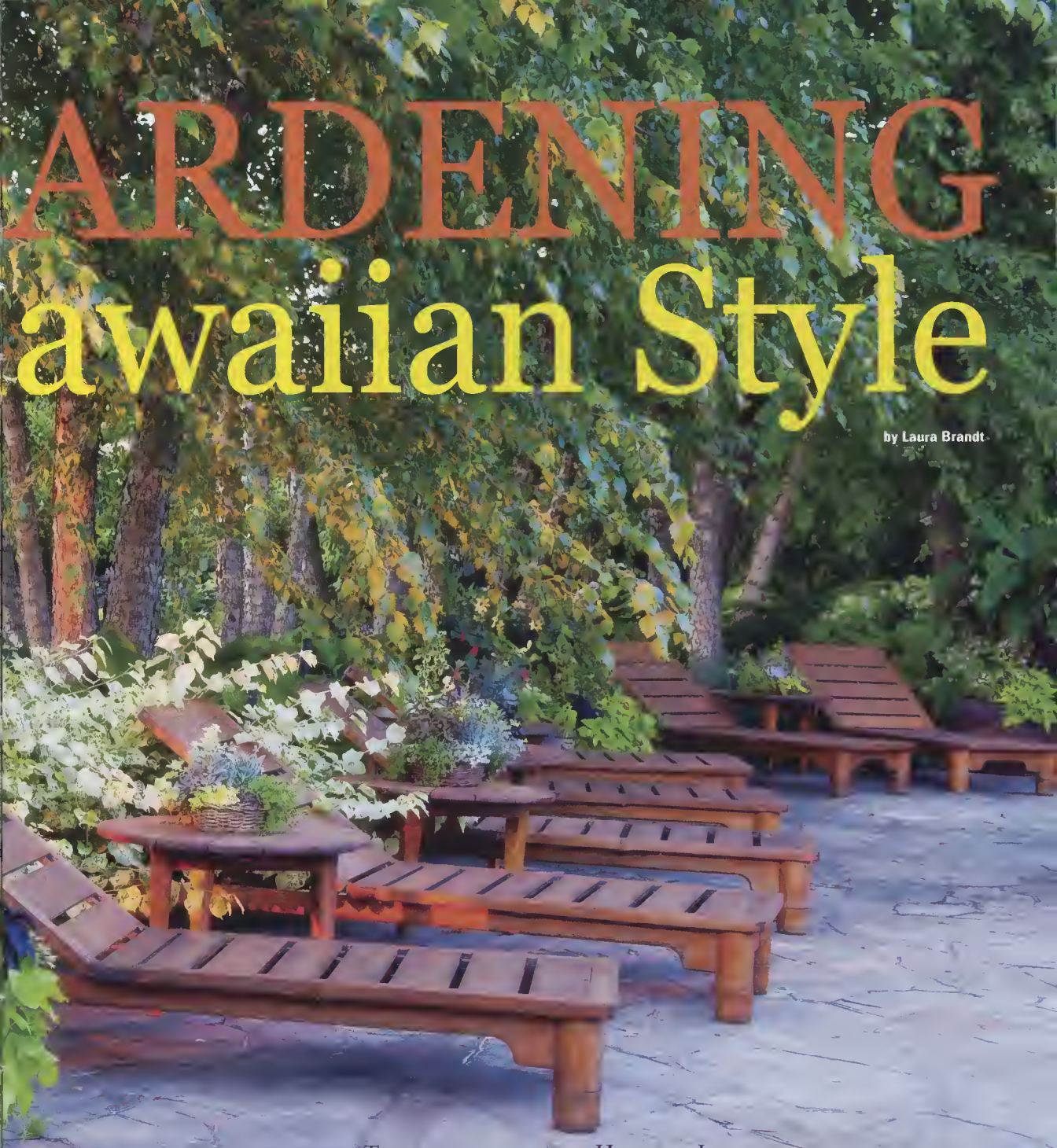


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Photos by Eva Gandolfi-Kraeger and Scott

ARDENING awaiian Style

by Laura Brandt



THE GARDENERS OF THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CAN CHOOSE FROM A PALETTE OF PLANTS THAT WE CALL "EXOTICS" OR "TROPICALS," BUT WHAT DISTINGUISHES A HAWAIIAN-STYLE GARDEN FROM ANY OTHER TROPICAL GARDEN, AND HOW CAN WE INTERPRET THAT STYLE HERE IN THE NORTHEAST?

Banana, sweet potato vine, and petunias create a festive tropical container. (Twin Silo Farm, Doylestown, PA)



Canna 'Tropicana'

Like many Pacific locales, Hawaii enjoys a wonderful mix of cultures, including the influence of Japanese, Filipinos, Europeans, and Polynesians. "Each of these cultures brought their favorite garden elements to the islands—it's sort of a chop suey or mix of many different garden elements," says Anna Yorba, a registered landscape architect and owner of Hawaiian Garden Design LLC, based in Aiea, a town outside of Honolulu.

Design Elements: Hawaiian Style

Hawaiian landscape designers create a sense of place by using native stone, native plants, and a variety of other lush, leafy tropical plants and accessories, depending on the goals of the project. "The native Hawaiian garden is not colorful; rather the emphasis is on the subtle shades and textural quality of the leaves and stones," says Yorba.

"Taro has become our signature Hawaiian plant in the modern landscape, although it was originally a Polynesian introduction," Yorba says. "Taro—kalo in Hawaiian—is revered as an ancestor of the native Hawaiians." Taro (*Colocasia*) yields poi, a food staple of the native people. In our area, taro or elephant ear bulbs are readily available in variety of green and bronze shades and quickly add a tropical ambiance to the summer garden. *Alocasia* bulbs, similar to *Colocasia* but with thicker, waxier leaves, are another favorite. Other typical plants in the Hawaiian landscape include philodendron, ginger, gardenia, bamboo, banana, and palm.

When it comes to groundcovers, ferns such as kupu kupu and laua'e fern are the most popular, according to Yorba.



"Hawaii is one of the most unique and beautiful places on Earth," says **Paul Redman, director of Longwood Gardens**. Previously, Redman worked at the National Tropical Botanical Garden in Hawaii and still visits the islands annually. "The native plant movement in Hawaii is probably one of the most progressive and forward-thinking efforts taking place today. Many resorts are removing invasive plants and replacing them with true native flora that have the ability to survive while advancing an important conservation effort."

Close-up of *Canna* 'Tropicana'

Hardy Plants with a "Tropical Look"

Magnolia sp.

Bamboo (clumping species, such as *Fargesia*)

Hardy banana (*Musa basjoo*)

Hardy hibiscus

Prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia humifusa*)

Yucca sp.

Dwarf mondo grass (*Ophiopogon japonicus* 'Nana')

Various Ferns

Liriope sp.

Cast iron plant (*Aspidistra elatior*)

Toad lilies (*Tricyrtis* sp.)

Parry's agave (*Agave parryi*)

See the official 2012 Flower Show video! Click code below with your smartphone or visit *theflowershow.com/showinfo/hawaiimovie.html*

For spaces between pavers, many gardeners use Dwarf mondo grass (*Ophiopogon japonicus* 'Nana'), which is hardy in our area.

The elements of water and fire play a big role in the Hawaiian garden. You will often see swimming pools surrounded by gardens, as well as fountains and ponds. Tiki torches that run on propane or natural gas often remain in use year-round.

Statuary and stones, such as Buddhas and tiki statues, contribute to the spirit of the Hawaiian garden. Hawaiian designers often use Japanese principles of stone setting and positioning. Natural basalt, a dark grey volcanic rock, appears in hardscaping applications or as a focal point or rock grouping. Rounded cut slabs of basalt create stepping-stone pathways, and various river rocks are used as accents and fillers.

Containers often feature a combination of big leafy specimens with trailing plants. "Large ceramic bowls with floating water lilies provide a wonderful visual effect and are common in Hawaiian landscapes," says Yorba.

Pennsylvania Paradise

Creating a Hawaiian-style landscape in your own garden may be easier than you think. Although we don't have volcanic rock, we do have plenty of native fieldstone. You can also find Mexican beach pebbles or other dark, smooth, rounded stones at garden centers or quarries. These stones combine well with dwarf mondo grass and add an exotic Asian feel to the garden. Add a few tiki torches, bamboo fencing, and perhaps clumping bamboo.

A combination of perennial plants as a backbone blended with annuals and even hardy tropical-looking plants will provide that



(Wimperis Garden, Bridgewater, CT)



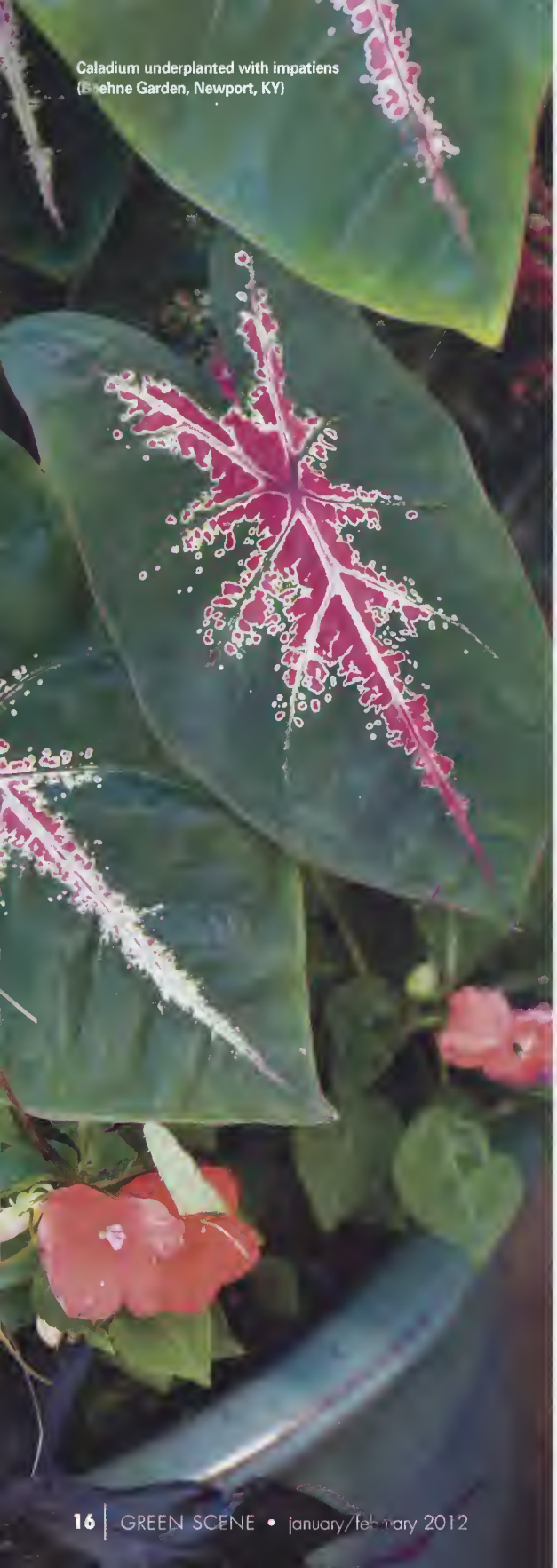
Photo by Laura Brandt

Banana tree underplanted with elephant ears at Chanticleer in Wayne, PA



Photo by Anna Yorba

An Oahu residential landscape designed by Anna Yorba of Hawaiian Garden Design



Caladium underplanted with impatiens (Behne Garden, Newport, KY)

Gardening Hawaiian Style

island feel. The gardeners of Chanticleer in Wayne, PA, add hardy tropical plants throughout the landscape, especially in the courtyard gardens, where they overwinter well. "Think of plants with big foliage and coarse texture for a tropical look," says Chanticleer horticulturist Jonathan Wright.

Hawaiian gardeners can grow about 20 varieties of bananas, but in the Mid-Atlantic region, choose hardy banana, or Japanese banana (*Musa basjoo*). Although the foliage dies back to the ground, the underground rhizomes remain frost hardy (the growing season is too short for the plants to bear fruit). Fifteen-year-old hardy banana plants in Chanticleer's Teacup Garden reach 10 to 15 feet in one season. "I cut our hardy banana plants down to about waist high each year and pile leaf mulch around them," says Wright. "If plants are out in the open, put chicken wire around them to keep the leaves from blowing away. Plant banana in the spring to give it a whole season to root in." Place container-grown banana plants in a protected area in winter. Meadowbrook Farm and other area garden centers sell hardy banana plants.

Hawaiians use a variety of plants in the landscape that we typically categorize as indoor "houseplants." For example, dumb cane (*Dieffenbachia*), pothos, cycads (e.g. sago palm), croton, ficus (a.k.a. weeping fig), philodendron, and caladium all do well outdoors in the summer in our area, but you must bring them inside during colder months.

Some houseplants can grow year-round in the garden. Cast iron plant (*Aspidistra elatior*), as its name implies, is a tough plant with leathery foliage that thrives in dry soil and deep shade. "We put cast iron plant in the ground where we have a difficult time growing anything, and it thrives," says Meadowbrook Farm grounds manager Tom Reber. "We like pushing the zone boundaries to see what will survive our winters—this is one of them."

Other hardy plants that Reber uses for a tropical feel include *Yucca rostrata* 'Sapphire Skies'; False aloe (*Manfreda virginica*); *Agapanthus africanus*; hardy prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia humifusa*); and Parry's Agave (*Agave parryi*).

Edging and fillers are key elements of any garden. "Use an edging of tropical-looking perennials such as liriope or ferns in the border, but add elephant ears, cannas, or angel's trumpet to create that lush look," says Wright. Perennial ferns such as ostrich fern, royal fern, or cinnamon fern work well as fillers in shady areas.

If you're looking for big, bold flowers, try Scarlet hibiscus (*Hibiscus coccineus*). In addition, hardy hibiscus (*H. moscheutos*) comes in various colors and is native to our area. Summer bulbs such as inexpensive species gladiolus (*Gladiolus murielae* (syn. *Gladiolus callianthus*), Peacock Orchid) look orchid-like. Plant them in succession for continuous bloom throughout late spring and summer.

Lastly, don't forget fragrance! Plants such as plumeria and gardenia perfume the air in Hawaii. For your Pennsylvania paradise, look to fragrant Oriental lilies like big, bold 'Stargazer' and 'Casa Blanca', as well as annuals such as nicotiana, moonflower, and heliotrope.

Then, sit back and enjoy your *nani mala* (beautiful, lush gardens) all season long!

Laura Brandt is a Bucks County garden writer who has enjoyed two visits to Hawaii.



Give agapanthus a big container, lots of sun, and even watering and you'll have abundant long-lasting flowers on sturdy stems. Even though they may survive a mild winter in a protected spot, most people bring them indoors. (Gale Garden, Doylestown, PA)



Canna and sweet potato vine are mixed with variegated herbs, colorful annuals, and tender summer bulbs to spectacular effect.



Boldly textured elephant ears blend beautifully with so many other foliage plants.



BIG EARS!

Learning about the World of *Alocasia*, *Colocasia*, and *Xanthosoma*

By Ilene Sternberg
Photographs by Rob Cardillo

"Elephant ears," says Chanticleer horticultutist Dan Benarcik, "offet more impact than just about any hot season plant, and *Colocasia gigantea* 'Thailand Giant Strain' ('Thai Giant') is the big daddy of them all!" In its native habitat this plant can reach 9 feet tall. Though shorter here, its leaves can stretch 5 feet long and 4 feet wide. But for lush, bold tropical vegetation, there are also miniature elephant ear versions with exotic leaf shapes, spotted showstoppers, and color variations to suit all tastes.

Which is Which?

Telling one genus from another is complicated. Benarcik explains, "The real differences are determined deep within the 'naughty bits' of the female flower, but there are simple visual cues." *Colocasia* leaves are usually matte with tips pointing downward and connecting to the petiole below the leaf notch, while *Alocasia* leaves are shiny, held horizontally with the tips pointed, comparatively, upward. Stalks connect at the leaf notch.

Although "Xantho" means yellow and "soma" means body, *Xanthosoma* leaves and/or stalks are not always yellow (and some *Alocasia* have yellow ones, too). Their typically arrow-shaped leaves usually have a smooth, waxy upper surface with thick ribs on the lower surface, often with quilted veins. Tips point downward and connect to the stalk at the leaf notch. There's also a vein that runs all around the leaf, just inside the margin. In terms of telling them apart, John Story of Meadowbrook Farm says, "Knowing which is which is much easier if one keeps the tags on them!"

The genus *Colocasia* includes over a dozen species, *Colocasia esculenta* being the most ornamental. Some grow in clumps, others spread by underground or above-ground runners, and some cultivars are downright noncommittal. Possibly native to Southeast Asia, they've been a food staple (taro) in equatorial zones for 28,000 years. All plant parts are edible if thoroughly steamed or

Big Ears!



Colocasia esculenta 'Jet Black'



Colocasia esculenta 'Ruffles'



Xanthosoma 'Lime Zinger'



Colocasia esculenta 'Diamond Head'



Colocasia 'Black Magic'



Jumbo-sized ears add drama to any garden setting.
(Seibert and Rice pot photographed at Landcraft Environments, NY)



boiled to remove toxic calcium oxalate crystals, which can numb and swell the tongue and pharynx, cause headaches, breathing difficulties, and hallucinations. Cooked leaves are used at Hawaiian luaus and the corms are mashed into poi.

There are at least 70 known species of *Alocasia*, which also have edible parts, but the corms require prolonged boiling before serving. Alocasia thrive in well-drained soil and shady places. The genus *Xanthosoma*, meanwhile, consists of about 50 species of tropical and sub-tropical arums. The corms are a staple food in some cultures, while for today's plant hunters, 'Lime Zinger' is a popular chartreuse cultivar.

Growing Elephant Ears

Plant corms 2 to 4 inches deep in soil with a pH of 5.5 to 7.0. During the growing season, *Colocasia* continually produce new leaves as older ones die off. Remove dead leaves to keep plants tidy. A word of caution: when cut, *Colocasia* stems exude a sap that can cause skin or eye irritation in some people.

Potted *Colocasia esculenta* cultivars can grow in shallow water, but other species, such as *Colocasia gigantea*, need better drainage. They grow well as pond marginals, and if container grown, pots can be submerged slightly during summer months. Says Benarcik, "Generally, they all respond favorably to rich organic, moisture-holding but free-draining soils. Young plants started in water and allowed to develop in it will always be better off than those moved into that situation later in life." (Nobody likes change.)

Story observes, "They seem happiest at 90°F+, are heavy feeders, and will recover from occasional wilt, but if chronic, expect lots of yellow leaves. They make good container plants, but planting them in the ground will produce huge, beautiful leaves. They're subject to mites if grown indoors or under dry stress conditions. We grow a big, dark-leafed one behind *Hakonechloa* and a big yellow one near some dark-leaved plants. The combo is great."

Michael Bowell, owner of Create A Scene (*Creatascene.com*), in Malvern, PA, says it's best to remove the flowers. He adds, "Some grow well in winter, others prefer to go dormant. I overwinter almost all in pots sunk into the ground or stack containers on top of each other in temperatures between 45° and 65°F."

Andrew Bunting, curator of the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College, says, "Colocasia overwinters best as a tuber in the basement; I think *Xanthosoma* does best overwintered in a greenhouse where it doesn't go dormant."

In Zone 7b, many ground-planted *Colocasia* will return without being mulched, but the central corm can freeze and rot during winter, and only smaller offsets survive, so returning plants may not reach full size the next season. Therefore, cover the clump after the first frost with a foot-tall pile of shredded leaves to protect the main corm. Plants emerge through the mulch in spring. *C.* 'Pink China' with green leaves on pink petioles, boasts hardiness to Zone 6.

Bowell especially likes *Alocasia* 'Sarian'. Benarcik says, "*Alocasia antiquarrum* 'Illustris' is sexiest wrapped in its little black dress. *Alocasia* 'Portodora' likely commands the most attention with its stiff, skyward presence."

So next summer, grab some elephant ears and add a sexy tropical dimension to your garden. With ears that big, all you'll be hearing is praise and admiration.

Garden writer Ilene Sternberg gardens in West Chester, PA.



A well-developed frond on 'Nainital' windmill palm displays its spreading fan shape.



Photo by Marcia Tate

Winter-Hardy PALMS for DELAWARE VALLEY Gardens

by Charles Cresson

I admit to a longstanding fascination with growing marginally hardy plants, those nearly subtropical temptresses of the South, in my Swarthmore garden. As a kid, I coddled camellias, figs, and hardy fuchsias. The hardy banana has been a year-round resident in my garden for 32 years.

Even in my wildest fantasies, though, palms never entered the realm of permanent landscape features for me. Then rumors started to reach my ears—word that a dwarf palmetto grew at the Henry Botanical Garden in Gladwyne and that a needle palm had survived for many years in a Glenside garden.

The rumors were indeed true. While not the tall-trunked palms of the tropics, these are true palms. Sometimes called bush palms or scrub palms, needle palm and dwarf palmetto grow as bushy, trunkless, multi-stemmed evergreen shrubs. Both of these species, natives of our southeastern states, have flourished in my garden for many years now and even produced seed after the cold, snowy winter of 2011. More intriguing still is windmill palm, the hardy trunked species from Asia, which also pulled through that winter with no special treatment.

Needle Palm

Native to the Florida panhandle and adjacent states, the needle palm, *Rhapidophyllum hystrix*, is considered the hardiest species of palm, enduring temperatures to -9°F and lower with little damage. Its name derives from the narrow sharp "needles" arming the center of the plant at the base of the petioles—you will not stick your bare hand into the center of one of these plants twice! As they age, most plants form side shoots that add to the fullness of the clump, which may eventually reach 10 feet in the South. Bunches of seeds may appear at ground level.

The needle palm I planted in 1997 has remained there through every winter since. In the early years, I mounded pine-needle mulch around the base to protect it, but lately I have given it nothing more than routine mulching. The needle palm is a bushy plant, 5 feet tall and wide, and I marveled at how it stood tall during the 2011 winter, proudly flaunting its blanket of snow. In spring the foliage looked as unblemished as if it had been in a greenhouse.

Dwarf Palmetto

Two hardy forms of dwarf palmetto, *Sabal minor*, grow in my garden. These are less bushy than needle palms with fewer fronds, but the individual fronds are latget and more dramatic, some eventually standing about 6 feet tall. This species has a broader natural range, stretching from North Carolina and Florida west to Texas. Not surprisingly, populations from different

parts of its wide range vary in winter hardiness.

One form I planted in 2000, 'McCurtain', is descended from a population in McCurtain County, Oklahoma, and has a light bluish-green cast to the leaves. Plants from this lineage are reputed to have withstood temperatures as low as -24° F! In 2005 I planted a dwarf palmetto that hails from northeastern Texas. It has bright green fronds and produced seeds for the first time in 2011, on a tall stem standing nearly as high as the foliage.

Windmill Palm

The hardiest trunked palm is the windmill palm, *Trachycarpus fortunei*, from China. During the 1800s it was planted in suitable parts of Europe, northern India into the Himalayas, and in North America. Some have exceeded 30 feet in height, and individual plants from these locations have shown exceptional hardiness. Seed from these noteworthy plants is now available, and I have two windmill palms in my garden. Although young, both have surprised me with their durability.

'Nainital' comes from near the town of Nainital in northern India, at 7,000 feet elevation in the foothills of the Himalayas, on the western side of Nepal. With winters about equivalent to ours, these plants are regarded among the hardiest. The fan-like fronds of 'Nainital' are distinctive for their numerous wide-spreading segments. Mine has survived through four winters outdoors.

Another windmill palm, grown from seed from Durham, North Carolina, is a veteran of three winters. Both palms now have short trunks about a foot above the ground, topped with a head of fronds. A third windmill palm from Bulgaria is still too young to plant out. Time will tell how they all fare in future years when they stand higher above the protection of surrounding plants.

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Palm Fronds

Palms can be divided into two categories depending upon leaf shape: Feather palms have leaflets attached along a central stalk, like a feather. Leaflets of fan palms are attached at a central point like a fan. All hardy palms are fan palms.



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Photo by Charles Cresson



Needle palm, regarded as the hardiest species, is draped in snow during the cold snowy January of 2011, in the author's garden.



Photo by Marcia Tate

Hailing from the Indian Himalayas, this Nainital' windmill palm has survived in southeastern Pennsylvania through four winters.



Photo by Charles Cresson

Flowers and needles appear at the base of a needle palm in spring.

How to Grow Palms

In the landscape, hardy palms make striking additions to foundation plantings and accents in flower borders or among shrubs. They do very well in sheltered urban microclimates. Imagine combining them with tropicals like salvias, bananas, ginger lilies, and angel's trumpets.

Palms are easy to grow but need a sheltered location among trees and shrubs or near a building for protection from strong winds. They do well in partial to full sun and average soil conditions, including clay. Although dwarf palmettos favor sandier soils, they aren't fussy here. While drought tolerant, they prefer consistent moisture for greatest vigor, which is important in northern climates. I also like to fertilize my palms early in the growing season.

Plant palms after they are several years old and plant only in spring so they can establish themselves before winter. While small they make excellent houseplants that enjoy summering outdoors. Although the objective is to grow fully hardy palms without any pampering, during the first couple years newly planted palms benefit from protection from winter sun and wind to reduce dehydration. The healthier the foliage is in spring, the stronger and faster-growing the palms will be. Make a cage with burlap attached to stakes, ensuring the burlap does not contact the foliage.

For greater protection, tie the fronds together in an upright column, then surround the plant with four stakes and slip a hot water heater cover (available at home stores) over the stakes. An overturned white plastic bucket over the top keeps out rain and moisture without absorbing too much heat. When fully dormant during the winter, palms don't need light. Keep covered from mid December through March.

Palms are slow to develop in the short growing season of northern climes. Mine are still immature, but each year they gain stature, increasing the size and number of fronds. The trunked windmill palms add several inches of trunk each summer.

While I have tried only a small selection of hardy palms, other local growers are experimenting with a greater variety. Although the selection will always be limited, it's clear that some palms can become permanent landscape features in the Delaware Valley, bringing our gardens closer to the tropics—at least in our imaginations.

Charles Cresson is a noted garden designer and author. Marcia Tate is a highly regarded photographer from Media, PA.



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Islands in the SUN

by Jane Godshalk, AIFD
Photographs by Rob Cardillo

When you visit Hawaii at the 2012 Philadelphia International Flower Show in March, look for a vast array of floral designs incorporating orchids. Hawaii's diverse microclimates provide excellent growing conditions for many varieties of orchids.

Orchids are a large family with over 20,000 species whose name comes from the Greek myth of Orchis, the son of a nymph and satyr. They grow in almost every climate and have many structural variations in their flowers.

Care and Handling of Orchids

Unpack flowers immediately, keep plastic sleeves on or tent with a plastic cover. Cut 1/2 inch from stem and place in clean water. Blossoms are fragile and must be handled carefully. Petals may brown if they become wet, so mist lightly if at all. Vase life is about 7 days.

Designing with Orchids

Dramatic and long lasting, orchids are wonderful for home and show designs.

Purple *Phalaenopsis* orchids cascade over *Ficus* roots. *Alocacia* leaf and purple tulip *Anthurium* balance the cascading line.

White *Phalaenopsis* orchid curves around blue paper and bear grass. Blue hydrangea complements the paper, and a *Sansevieria* leaf provides a secondary line. The support stand is a metal plate with six copper rods.





Cymbidium 'Mighty Sunset' and *Lycopodium* burst from a structure made from hot glue and twigs. Pheasant feathers provide movement and asymmetrical balance.



Purple *Dendrobium* and yellow *Vanda* orchids combine with *Smilax* vine to cover a surprising structure of drinking straws. Multiple straws are folded and stapled over a heavy wire, and then the wire is bent into a graceful curve.

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High Line: The Inside Story of New York City's Park in the Sky
By Joshua David & Robert Hammond
(339 pp., $29.95)

The High Line is, of course, New York's much-lauded park that sits atop the hulk of an unused, elevated train line built in the 1930s. Authors David and Hammond, two of the prime drivers behind the project, relay the saga of how concerned and creative citizens got together to help bring the High Line to fruition.

The first half of the book is laid out almost in blog format—an extended dialog between the authors. The text is arranged in chapters highlighting the challenges and successes along the arduous 10-year journey, including various political alliances and the formation of the pivotal Friends of the High Line group.

Many readers, however, will jump directly to the second half of the book, which features exquisite color photos of the High Line before, during, and after construction. You'll find a section with vintage photos of the elevated rail line in its heyday, including one showing the final train run in 1980, which, unceremoniously, consisted of three carloads of frozen turkeys. Most inspiring of all, however, are the many "after" pictures, showing people walking, relaxing, and enjoying themselves on the High Line.

Like the mile-long park itself, this book is an inspiring journey about urban renewal and the power of communities.

—Pete Prown







ENCHANTED BY ORCHIDS

A Dazzling Tropical Exhibition Comes to PHS

Story and photo by Betsie Blodgett

NEVER CALL MAURICE MARIETTI AN ORCHID EXPERT. Calling him *daft*, however, is a different matter. "I'm a hobbyist who loves to grow orchids," says Maurice, who has served as president of the Pinelands Orchid Society and co-chair of the orchid classes at the Philadelphia International Flower Show. "I am not an expert, but you can use the word 'crazy'."

Maurice has carved out an orchid oasis at the Medford, NJ, home he shares with his wife, Charlene. He primarily raises cattleyas in a greenhouse filled with about 140 specimens.

Like many enthusiasts, Maurice became acquainted with orchids through a family member. "My aunt raised them, and I started raising them on windowsills," he says. And as other orchid lovers do, he found that having a single plant is never enough. "It's like potato chips; you can't eat just one," he says.

Maurice started helping Walt Off with Waldor Orchids Flower Show exhibits in 1996, and has been involved as a volunteer with the Show since then, first in the orchid classes and now as an Early Morning Tour guide. He also continues to exhibit his plants at the Flower Show.

And now Maurice is busy working with Valerie Oldham, Bayard Saraduke, and Ty Triplett, friends from the Pinelands Orchid Society, to stage a special exhibition at the PHS McLean Library. *Enchanted Orchids* will run from January 23 to February 10 and will feature some of the finest orchids from top growers in the Greater Philadelphia Region.

Maurice hopes *Enchanted Orchids* will inspire everyone to raise an orchid, whether it's one on a windowsill or hundreds in a greenhouse. "Everyone loves orchids," he says. "They're gorgeous."



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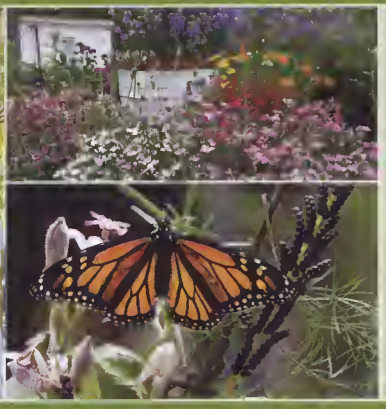
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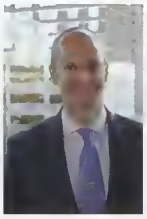
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Get Ready for a Spectacular Flower Show



I could not be more excited about the 2012 Philadelphia International Flower Show, *Hawaii: Islands of Aloha*, scheduled for March 4 through 11. This year's Show will immerse you in the sights, sounds, and scents of Hawaii. It also will be notable for some big changes. Flower Show designer Sam Lemheney promises, "It will feel like you're visiting the Flower Show for the first time."

First, the entrance display uses the latest technology to create a spectacular overhead projection engulfing you in moving images of ocean surf and waves of orchids. Once you catch your breath, you'll notice that the Show layout has changed. All the things you love about the Flower Show are still here, just in different places to create a better visitor experience.

We've expanded our Horticulture section to make room for additional exhibitors and have added a visitors' lounge where you can sit and enjoy a meal right on the Show floor. We'll also unveil new visitor amenities such as the "Man Cave" (open to anyone), a lounge for those who want to kick back and watch a game on TV.

At our own PHS exhibit, you'll see the latest trends in vegetable gardening, and learn about our innovative City Harvest partnership program, which works with community gardeners, as well as inmates of the Philadelphia Prison System, to grow and distribute fresh produce to families in need.

Proceeds from Flower Show tickets help make PHS programs like City Harvest possible. Other PHS initiatives include Plant One Million, a multi-state tree planting partnership that promises to make our region greener and healthier by adding one million trees. Of course, as a PHS member, your ticket is free, but please consider buying tickets for your friends and help support a great cause!

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Finally, I'm grateful to our amazing exhibitors who make the Flower Show magic happen, and to our incredible army of volunteers. We couldn't do it without you.

See you at the Show!

Drew Becher
President,
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

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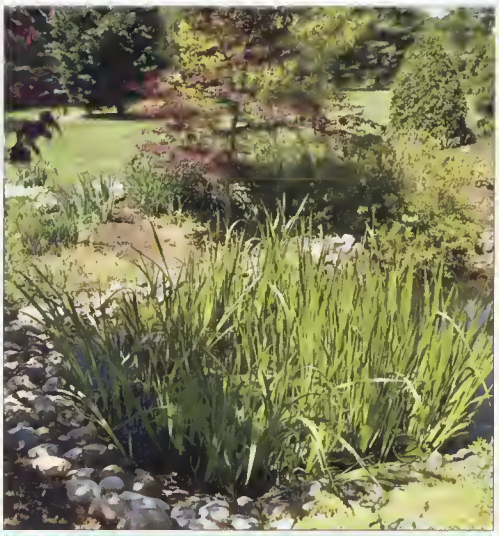




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Join plantsman and snowdrop expert David Culp as he offers insight into these remarkable bulbs, sharing images of his garden and other famous winter gardens and snowdrop collections. Gather design ideas and learn how to identify and grow these precious winter flowers. Tour Winterthur's March Bank and enjoy the spectacle of thousands of snowdrops in bloom. *$20, $10 Members.* To register, call 800.448.3883.

FLOWER POWER!

Spring brings month after month of glorious blossoms to Winterthur's March Bank, Sundial Garden, Azalea Woods, and Peony Garden. Visit often to enjoy a succession of showstopping blooms!

Winterthur is nestled in Delaware's beautiful Brandywine Valley
on Route 52, between I-95 and Route 1• winterthur.org

How to Make a Lei

Photographs by Margaret Funderburg

Grace Asperin is an AmeriCorps intern currently employed at PHS. She's working on Plant One Million, our multi-state tree-planting initiative (*plantonemillion.org*), but, conveniently for us, she also hails from Hawaii and is a whiz at making leis. We asked her to demonstrate the craft so we'll be ready for *Hawaii: Islands of Aloha*.

According to Grace, schoolchildren on the Islands are given regular instruction from a *kumu*, or teacher, who shows them various aspects of Hawaii's culture, including everything from language to hula and games.

Grace says you can make a *lei* out of just about anything you can string a needle through, such as fresh flowers, leaves, shells, and nuts. Many *leis* are made of orchids in Hawaii, but that's rather cost-prohibitive here. For people in our neck of the woods, she recommends using affordable, everyday carnations.

Supplies

- Mini carnations (or the flower of your choice). For this *lei*, we used five bunches, which yielded about 150 flowers. The cost was about $20.
- Household string, yarn, or even dental floss
- A sewing needle with a large eye


First remove the calyx.


Lay out the blossoms to help organize your pattern.


Cut string to 80 inches. Fold in half and tie knot.

Steps

1) **Remove the green, leafy calyx** around the flower's base. This will allow the petals to spread out more and give the lei more fullness. This step takes some time, but is essential.

2) **Lay out flowers on a tabletop.** This will help you visualize how many flowers you have and how you will put it together. As you can see here, Grace is planning to create a *lei* using mostly white carnations, but with two big splashes of red blossoms.

3) **Measure the string.** A *lei* is usually about 40 inches long, so you want about double that in string length. Cut a piece that's 80 inches long (between six and seven feet).

4) **Thread one end of the string through the sewing needle** and tie a knot to keep the flowers in place. At this point, you will have a double line of string 40 inches long.

5) **Begin stringing the flowers,** piercing the blossom through the top and out the bottom.

6) **Continue stringing** and place your color masses where you want them.

7) **Tie both ends together** with a knot and you're done!



Grace tells us that leis are primarily made as gifts, so whether it's for Mother's Day a Graduation, or a birthday, your lei be perfect. Inde Hawaii, giving the way to send flowers to som you care about.



String blossoms wit sewing needle.





You can establish a pattern by using different colored flowers.



Island Time

A Preview of the 2012 Philadelphia International Flower Show, *Hawaii: Islands of Aloha*

by Betsie Blodgett

Although being enthusiastic is a job requirement when overseeing the world's oldest and largest indoor flower show, Show designer Sam Lemheney practically levitates when talking about *Hawaii: Islands of Aloha*. "It will feel like you're at the Flower Show for the very first time," Sam says, looking over design sketches for the 2012 Philadelphia International Flower Show.

Massive specimen orchids and rare tropical plants. High-energy live performances. A new and more open floor plan for exhibit space and Marketplace vendors. And, most important, the *aloha* spirit wherever you go.

"It's what you expect from Hawaii, but in an unexpected way," Sam explains.

Visitors will experience this the first moment they enter the main Show floor and encounter what Sam calls the "orchid wave." High-definition projection artistry will create a virtual wave of water building up over a brilliant bank of white anthuriums and orchids, which then dissolves into a foamy crest of orchids. Sam says this is the perfect way to enter the "tropical immersion area—a thick, lush rainforest garden filled with more orchids, foliage, and ferns dripping overhead."

Pele, Hawaii goddess of fire, wind, lightning, and volcanoes, will have her own garden in this section of the central feature. "I am very excited about this," says Sam. "There will be a 25-foot-tall waterfall crashing down into a 30-foot-wide pool. With stunning orchids from Waldor Orchids, a 'hale,' or traditional thatched-roof house, and erupting volcanoes—thanks to a cutting-edge light and music show—it will be like something you've never seen before." The creative people at GMR Design and Klip were also part of the planning team behind this amazing exhibit.

Pele's Garden will be the site of live entertainment as well, featuring professional hula dancers performing six times a day. (Please check the Flower Show website, *theflowershow.com*, for all schedules.)

Major exhibitors in the Showcase Garden category will highlight cultural and horticultural aspects of five islands of Hawaii. They include the American Institute of Floral Designers (AIFD), who will interpret the Big Island through hula and leis; Stoney Bank Nurseries, which will highlight Maui through agricultural products—pineapples, taro, wine grapes, and more—grown and landscaped in a decorative way; Burke Brothers Landscape Contractors, Inc., who will design an executive surfer retreat on Oahu; and Michael Petrie's Handmade Gardens, who will showcase the dry side of Lanai in an out-of-this-world rock garden interpreting the "Garden of the Gods."

Just beyond the Showcase Gardens, visitors will find the new Designer's Studio. Imagine Iron Chef, but instead of paring knives, the competitors will be wielding flower clippers. Drawn from the considerable talent in the competitive Artistic Classes, floral designers will face off twice a day in fun contests.

PHS President Drew Becher is already a fan. "I am so excited for the Designer's Studio," says Drew. "I think it is going to be a lot of fun, and people in the audience will be able to participate in judging using their cell phones."

City Harvest, PHS's partner program with the Philadelphia Prison System and local community gardens and food banks, will be highlighted in the PHS exhibit with a 40-foot-long lettuce wall and tomatoes growing overhead. The vegetable plants are being nurtured to perfection at PHS's Meadowbrook Farm, which also grows and forces many of the plants for gardens clubs and major exhibitors. Visitors inspired by these tantalizing herbs and vegetables will be able to order plants from the Meadowbrook Farm Flower Show store for pickup later in the spring. Ready to bring home a plant that day? Meadowbrook will have plenty of succulents, begonias, flowering houseplants, ferns, herbs, and more, as well as decorative garden accessories.

The Flower Show's impressive corps of volunteers, including Early Morning Tour guides, Competitive Class organizers, judges, greeters, horticultural and Show information experts, and




Kilauea volcano

more—will help every visitor experience first-hand the aloha spirit. "You will feel welcome wherever you go," Sam promises.

For those who want a more tangible memory, the Show's extensive Marketplace, with a completely revamped floor plan, has something for every budget, from seeds, bulbs, and plants to jewelry and antique garden accessories.

A special Hawaii Marketplace featuring dozens of vendors selling authentic clothing, food, and crafts will be located in the Convention Center's Grand Hall. Sam has been working with the Hawaii Tourism Authority and Hawaii Convention and Visitors Bureau to bring the best perfotmers, cultural experts, presenters, and demonstrators to the Show.

Visit the Philadelphia Intetnational Flower Show in March, and you, too, will share Sam's enthusiasm for what is sure to be an amazing experience. "It's completely different from any other year," says Sam. "You'll just have to see it to believe it."

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Hitomi Gilliam, an internationally renowned floral artist and author who has guest-designed throughout the world, will appear at the Philadelphia International Flower Show for two days to demonstrate cutting-edge design techniques using tropical foliage and flowers. Sponsored by the Hawaii Tropical Flower Council, these special events are scheduled for March 6 and 7. Please check the Flower Show website, *theflowershow.com*, for more information.

Hawaii: Islands of Aloha | 2012 Philadelphia International Flower Show

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All proceeds from the Philadelphia International Flower Show, including tickets and sponsorship contributions, support the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and its acclaimed urban greening programs, including City Harvest. Thank you for your support!

WHERE
Pennsylvania Convention Center
12th & Arch Streets
Philadelphia, PA

WHEN
Sunday, March 4: 8:00 am–9:30 pm
Monday–Friday, March 5 to 9: 10:00 am–9:30 pm
Saturday, March 10: 8:00 am–9:30 pm
Sunday, March 11: 8:00 am–6:00 pm

MEMBERS' PREVIEW
Saturday, March 3, 12 noon–3:30 pm
(*household and leadership levels only*)

RECORDED INFORMATION
215-988-8899

BUY TICKETS ONLINE (service charges may apply)
theflowershow.com

ADVANCE TICKETS

General admission:	$27
Student (ages 17–24):	$20
Child (ages 2–16):	$15
Under 2:	Free

TICKETS AT THE BOX OFFICE

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Weekdays:	$30
Student:	$22
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Child (ages 2–16):	$17

PACKAGES (*visit website for more info*)

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** Please note that the Flower Show Value Pak and Membership tickets are not available at retail locations. These tickets will be available online or at the box office.

HANDICAP ACCESS
Passenger drop-off is located at 11th and Arch streets. Volunteer aids are available. Wheelchair rentals are $15 a day on a first-come, first-served basis. The rental booth is located on the Show Level Concourse outside of 8 Hall. Service animals are permitted. Pets are not allowed at the Flower Show.

FLOWER SHOW MEMBER VIP PASS
As a PHS Member, making a return trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show has never been easier. With the NEW Member VIP Pass you can make unlimited visits Monday through Friday, and also enjoy the opportunity to enter the Show at 9:00 am on Thursday, March 8!

If you've always wanted to see more and do more, here's your chance. But don't wait to purchase; only a limited number of passes will be issued to the 2012 Show.

- Must be an active Household or Leadership level member to purchase.
- Optional 9:00 am entry on Thursday, March 8 (one hour before Show opens to public).
- Pass valid Monday, March 5 through Friday, March 9.
- Non-transferable and limited number of VIP Passes issued.

Adult Member VIP Pass: $100
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Saving



A seed-head of an opium poppy is filled with thousands of tiny seeds destined to become next year's blooms.

Seeds

SAVING SEEDS IS ONE OF THE DEEP PLEASURES OF GARDENING. IT'S ALSO A WAY IN WHICH WE ALL CAN PARTICIPATE IN PRESERVING THE GENETIC DIVERSITY OF PLANT SPECIES.



By Anne Raver
Photos by Rob Cardillo

A hybrid tomato that is both tangy and productive is welcome in my garden. But I want to preserve the diverse flavors, colors, and shapes of my heirloom tomato patch, so I save the seeds of favorite fruits.

I love Green Zebra, with its green stripes on a yellow skin. Aunt Ruby's German Green makes a great tomato pie. Brandywine will always be my blush-red favorite, with all its lumps and bumps, and Yellow Brandywine isn't bland like most yellow tomatoes. Cherokee Purple is a luscious near-black.

Every summer, as each variety reaches its zenith, I choose one of the best tomatoes and squeeze its pulp into a jelly jar or any glass container. I add water and let it ferment for a few days. As a frothy mess forms over the top of the glass, the viable seeds begin to drop to the bottom. I scoop off the residue, rinse the seeds and dry them on an old paper bag, out of direct sunlight. When completely dry, I put them in an envelope marked with the name of the variety and date. I put all my tomato seed envelopes in a sealed baggie and store in an old pot, with a tight lid, kept in a cool corner of the mudroom.

It's a nice feeling, as I add to the seeds in that pot—a personal seed bank that will germinate in my greenhouse come March and flourish again next summer. The seeds of favorite plants also make great gifts—be it a holiday, birthday, or a little something to bring to a gardening friend when you're staying over.

Many years ago, a friend on Long Island handed me my first opium poppy seeds in a pretty little round case, with a note that said, "Toss these over the snow in February, and don't touch them when they come up in spring!" And I've never had to buy poppy seeds since. I've given many away—the offspring, many generations removed from that first tin of seeds—and those gardeners have given their





Letting tomato seeds ferment is one of the easiest ways to clean them for storage. Once cleaned, store dried seeds in tight-lidded containers.



Flowers such as hollyhock sprout from seeds when scattered around the garden.



The fish pepper has distinctive fruit and foliage.





A cosmos seed head resembles anise seed in this photo.



Raver saves the seeds of some of her favorite heirloom tomatoes.

seeds away. So it goes, across the country, like Seven Degrees of Separation.

I often mark a particularly beautiful poppy—a crimson red or deep purple—with a piece of yarn. That way, after the flowers are pollinated and the petals fall, leaving a beautiful round green pod with holes at the top, like a pepper shaker, I can wait for the pod to turn brown and the seeds to ripen, without forgetting which stem held that spectacular blossom.

I save some seeds and scatter others about the garden—poppies, sunflowers, hollyhocks, cosmos, coriander, fennel, and dill—because I like the serendipity of volunteers. (If you don't like where they pop up in spring, just move them.)

Saving vegetable seeds is trickier. Generally, open-pollinated varieties of leafy greens will "come true," or produce the same plants. One example is Lacinato kale, a delicious dark green rumpled variety that dates back to eighteenth-century Italy and was a favorite in Thomas Jefferson's garden at Monticello. (I love to stir-fry it with garlic.)

I let Lacinato and favorite lettuces, like Forellenschuss, or Speckled Trout Back, simply flower and set seed. The flowers are delicious in salads, they attract butterflies, bees, and other fascinating pollinators, and they add yet another layer of time to the garden. When the petals fall, the seeds soon dry and are easily collected.

But other species, such as beans, peppers, and squash, cross-pollinate so readily that it's best to just grow one species at a time—or place them hundreds of feet apart if you have the room. Otherwise, the seeds you save are likely to produce horses of a very different color next year.

There are ways to grow a number of varieties in close proximity, but it involves covering the flowers with screened little baggies (made out of Reemay, or spun polyester, for instance), which pollinators can't penetrate, and then pollinating the flower by hand. That's far too fussy for me, but anyone intrigued by the challenge will find Suzanne Ashworth's *Seed to Seed: Seed Saving Techniques for the Vegetable Gardener* (Chelsea Green, 2002) a trustworthy bible. Southern Exposure Seed Exchange (*southernexposure.com*) also has informative articles on the subject, written by experienced seed growers.

I do have one favorite chili, the fish pepper, which I grow from my own saved seed year after year. It is said to have been brought to

continued on page 26

Gateway Garden Center

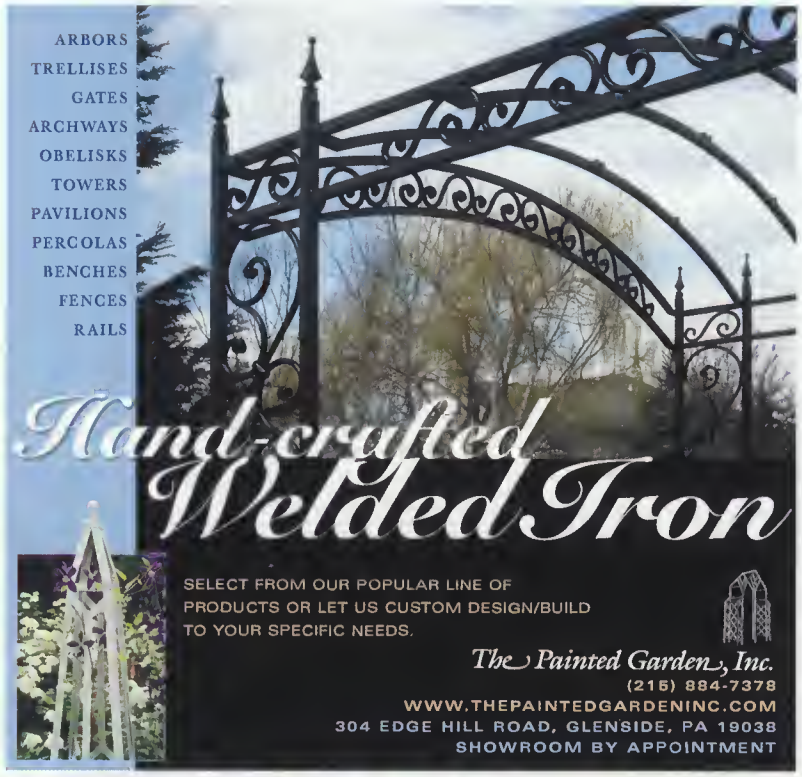
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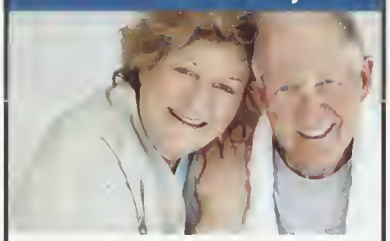


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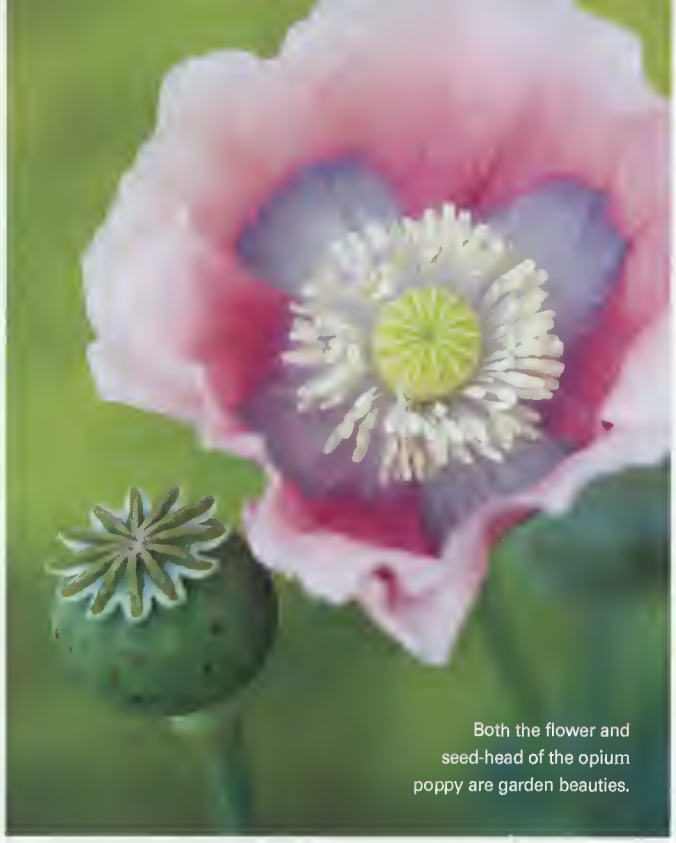
Baltimore by an African slave, via the Caribbean, and readily embraced for the zest it gave to fish and crab dishes. I happily pass it on to other crab-cake and fish-chowder cooks up and down the coast.

The fish peppers ripen on bushy little plants with variegated cream and green foliage. No more than an inch long, the slender pointed fruits are pale green at first, some with a cream-colored racing stripe, and turn bright red if blessed with a long, hot summer. When a frost threatens, I pull the plants and hang them upside down from the rafters of my mudroom, which gets filtered light. They dry there nicely, and I save the seeds of a few of the reddest, most robust fruits.

I still grow the pale yellow single-petaled hollyhocks that the painter Robert Dash gave to me from his garden, Madoo, in Sagaponack, NY. His friend, Rosemary Verey, had given him seeds of her yellow hollyhocks years before, when he admired them in her garden at Barnsley House, near Cirencester, England. I've given them to my own friends, so who knows where and how far they will travel.

Such is the story of seeds since they were first carried from one dwelling to another, thousands of years ago.

Anne Raver writes about gardening for the *New York Times*.



Both the flower and seed-head of the opium poppy are garden beauties.

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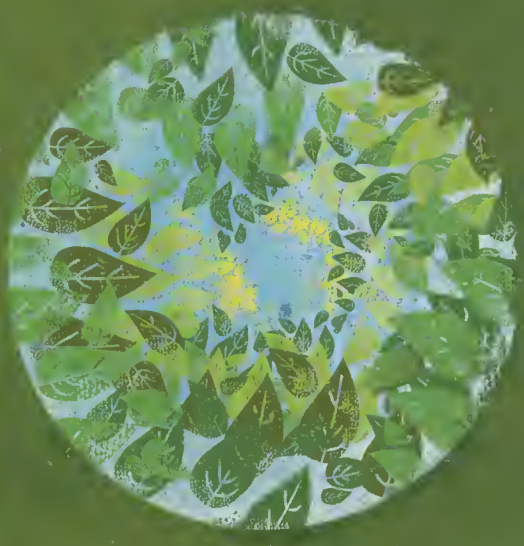
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Seeds of Change

Amy Goldman is Bringing Heirlooms to Everyone

By Denise Cowie
Photography by Victor Schrager



Goldman's Italian American tomato



Vi[illegible] forms. [illegible] spilling seed. The glowing images that illustrate Amy Goldman's three books on heirloom melons, squash, and tomatoes seem to define garden-variety seduction, though there's nothing ordinary about these luscious photographs.

Goldman hopes to seduce people with the beauty and taste of heirloom varieties never imagined by supermarket shop[illegible] to grow the [illegible] vegetables that are [illegible] passed down through [illegible] for centuries. And, she wants them to save [illegible] so that will be [illegible] generations.

"I am a [illegible] so much so that the [illegible] "my [illegible] Seed Sa[illegible]



Queen Anne s
Pocket Melon



Chirimen
squash



Jenny Lind
melon



Queensland Blue
squash

Exchange, and in 2007 became chairman of the board of the Iowa-based nonprofit, which is dedicated to preserving and sharing North America's heirloom seeds to help maintain genetic diversity.

"My thing is trying to educate a new generation of gardeners and food savers," she says. "We need to have people out there growing and enjoying these crops and saving seeds. Seed Savers Exchange promotes a network of growers on farms and in gardens ... as well as *ex situ* conservation in gene banks." The organization maintains a gene bank at its headquarters in Decorah, Iowa, as well as with the U.S. National Gene Bank in Colorado and the Svalbard Global Seed Vault—the so-called "Doomsday vault"—in Norway.

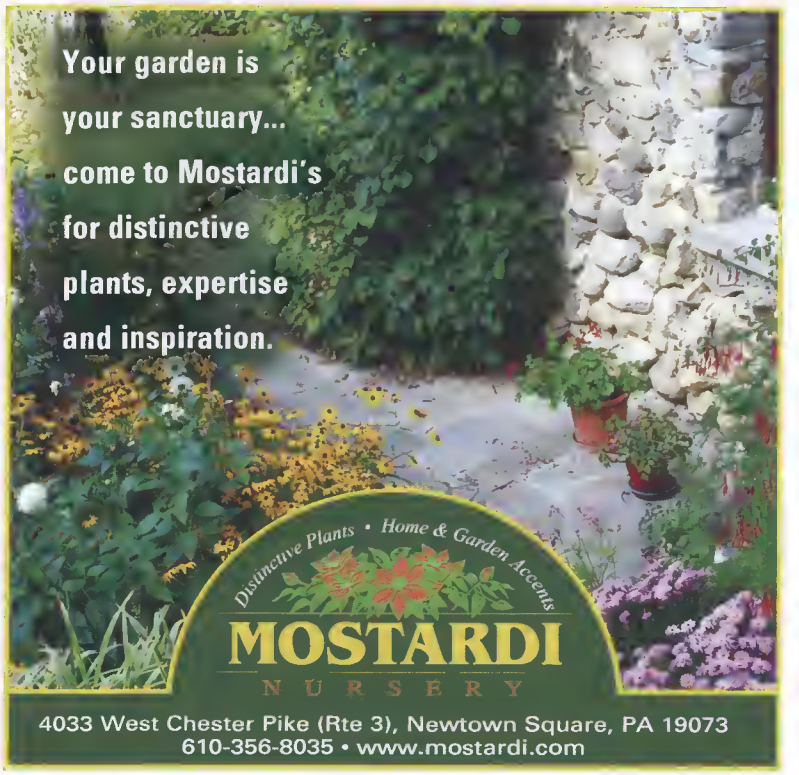
With Goldman's help, a fraction of Seed Savers diversity will be on display this month at the Philadelphia International Flower Show, where the PHS exhibit on vegetable gardening will boast a wall of lettuce 9 feet tall and 40 feet long. It will feature six varieties and about 3,000 lettuces of differing textures and colors, notes Barrett Robinson, PHS senior vice president for operations and the man in charge at Meadowbrook Farm, the PHS affiliate in Abington, PA, where all those plants were grown.

"There will be other vegetables, such as kale, peppers, broccoli, and a fragrant garden of herbs that smell good but are also edible, but one of the big show-stoppers will be the lettuce wall," Robinson says. "We are interested in opening people's eyes to what they can grow, heirloom varieties that not only grow well but taste better and are more nutritious. The mission of Seed Savers really resonates with the mission of PHS, to preserve and promote great horticulture."

Even better, Flower Show visitors will be able to order plants of many heirloom vegetables through a partnership between Seed Savers Exchange and Meadowbrook Farm (*see sidebar on next page*). There will also be lectures by Seed Savers co-founder Diane Ott Whealy and Goldman, who plans a presentation on her favorite "fruit vegetables," such as melons, squashes, and tomatoes.

"They are all botanically fruit, that is, fertilized ovaries where the seeds are encased






Amy Goldman in her garden.

Photo by Sandi Fellman

in wet flesh," says the woman who grew hundreds of varieties of them as she was writing *Melons for the Passionate Grower, The Compleat Squash,* and *The Heirloom Tomato: From Garden to Table.* All three books, extravagantly illustrated by photographer Victor Schrager, have won the American Horticultural Society's Book Award.

A clinical psychologist and philanthropist, as well as an author and extreme gardener, Goldman isn't given to doing anything on a small scale. "My big garden is about an acre, but I have a smaller garden that is about 40 by 60 feet and I just built a new greenhouse because I ran out of room," she says of her property and 1788 farmhouse near Rhinebeck, NY. "I have been growing vegetables since I was 17 or 18—my parents were in the food business originally—and I seemed to have a natural affinity for kitchen gardening."

For years she was absorbed in a quest for blue ribbons, until in 1998 she won the Holy Grail of such competitions, the coveted Gardener's Sweepstakes Award at the Philadelphia Harvest Festival. "Competing helped me hone my skills, and in the course of it I became involved with the heirloom seed movement," she says.

Now, she encourages every gardener to try seed saving: "There are easy ways you can get hooked on growing these plants, and then save the seeds of one variety without getting into an elaborate process. Simply grow any of these varieties in isolation from other varieties with which they could cross. If you grow one tomato or one melon, then all you have to do is save the seed at the end of the season."

To save melon seeds, she explains, "Take a ripe melon, extract the seeds, wash them in a colander to get the sticky goo off, then put them on paper plates and set them in a well-ventilated place until they are dry and

continued on page 36




Tomato chips

Intimidated by the thought of starting vegetables from seed? Now Meadowbrook Farm can do it for you!

At the Philadelphia International Flower Show, the Meadowbrook Farm Store will allow visitors to order vegetable plants to be grown from seed. Visitors will be able to peruse pictures of about 360 varieties of vegetables, choose plants, pay by credit card, and some weeks later, pick up veggie starts from Meadowbrook Farm in Abington, PA.

"The 'pre-grow plant program' offers gardeners more choices than they might normally have," says Barrett Robinson of Meadowbrook Farm. The vegetables will be grown from seeds provided by Seed Savers Exchange, and in spring, gardeners who order the plants will be advised when their plants are ready for pickup.

Visit meadowbrookfarm.org or call 215-887-5900

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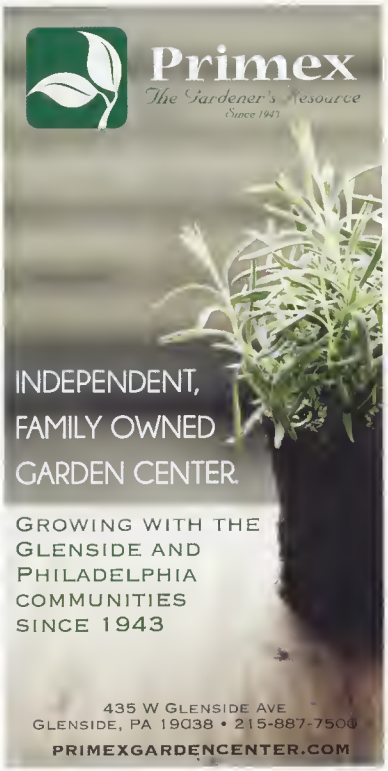
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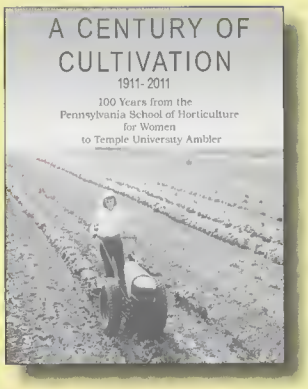
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brittle." Store them in paper packets in an airtight container in the fridge, and they should be viable for years.

During her love affair with seeds, Goldman has named some found varieties, such as Goldman's Italian American tomato, after her father's grocery store in Brooklyn, and Sara's Galapagos, a blood-red currant tomato grown from seed collected in the wild during a trip Goldman and her daughter Sara made to the Galapagos Islands in 2002.

"I'm amazed how popular it has become," Goldman says. "It is the most prolific and delicious tomato, extraordinarily wonderful." But Sara, now 19, isn't a big fan of her namesake. "I don't get it," her mother says, and laughs. "Other kids eat them like candy, but she doesn't really like fresh tomatoes."

Learn more about Seed Savers Exchange at *seedsavers.org*, and Meadowbrook Farm's seed-growing program at *meadowbrookfarm.org*.

FLOWER SHOW LECTURES

March 5, 10:30 am, Room 201C: Amy Goldman lectures on her favorite fruit and vegetables.

March 6, 11:30 am, Lecture Room : Diane Ott Whealy lectures on heirloom seeds.

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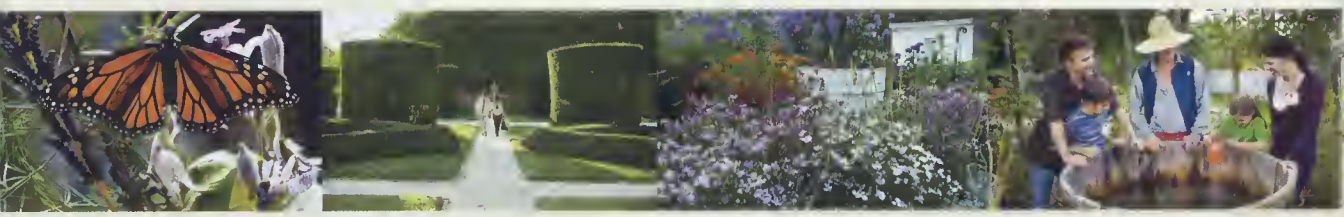


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Tropical Flowers: Line, Color & Form

By Jane Godshalk, AIFD • Photographs by Rob Cardillo

The Philadelphia International Flower Show brings us *Islands of Aloha*, with the sunshine and spirit of Hawaii to cheer our Philadelphia winter. Dramatic tropical flowers with strong lines, colors, and forms can be used to create a myriad of dazzling designs. Look for exciting and diverse styles and exotic flower combinations.



Strong color contrast

1. Combining tropical flowers with flowers from cooler climates focuses on the color and texture and not horticultural compatibility. Long stems, sometimes straight and sometimes gracefully curved, inspired this design with crossing lines, colors, and flower forms high in the design. The supporting structure is made of river cane anchored into a small rectangular vase with a steel grass overlay in a ginko leaf or crescent shape.

The elevated focal area begins with a group of purple carnations from which a purple *Dendrobium* orchid emerges. Orange roses work together with orange *Psittacorum*, while a single red *Anthurium* and two yellow callas move the eye to the edges of the crescent shape. One *Alocacia* leaf shelters the design, and two green *Cymbidium* orchids add a tropical accent.



2. The close-up photo reveals the interplay of color: red, orange, yellow, and purple contrasting with green.

Subtle color contrast

3. Soft muted colors of exotic materials enhance a coral ceramic vase. A tall red mitsumata branch curves over the vase with *Monstera* leaves echoing the horizontal lines of the vase. Purple carnations and purple *Curcuma* are layered above the vase, and yellow *Calathea* 'Yellow Rattlesnake' curve above. A group of *Cymbidium* 'Mighty Sunset' orchids balances the design on the right. Flowers are chosen for the colors and textures of their flower heads without their linear stems.



4. In this close-up, you can see the small round flowers emerging from the *Calathea* inflorescence in purple and gold colors, which were the inspiration for the gold, purple, and red color choices of the design. The throats of the brown cymbidium orchids also have purple and red tones.





Monochromatic Colors

5. A metal structure resting on a silver ceramic tray supports tall green *Heliconia bihai* 'Emerald Forest' and creates strong vertical, parallel lines. Contrasting white *Anthurium* 'Oshiro White' provides a subtle focal area.



6. *Aspidistra* leaves are folded and layered into a circular form to create this monochromatic design. *Anthurium* 'Hawaiian Butterfly' float above the leaves giving a light and airy effect.



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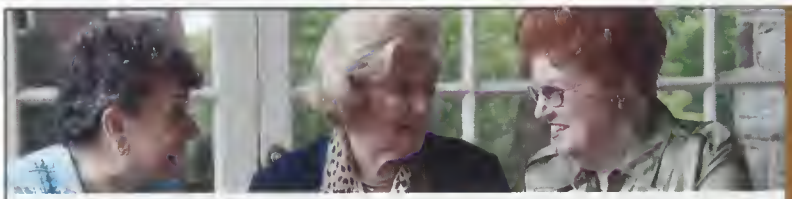
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Sam's Hawaii Odyssey

By Daniel Moise

If you've been following our Flower Show blog and Facebook pages, you've been tracking Show designer Sam Lemheney as he travelled around Hawaii this past year, soaking up sights, sounds, and flavors to help him conjure up *Islands of Aloha*. We've distilled a few of the best segments here to get you in an "island" mood.



Sam in an outrigger canoe



"**Waimea**, meaning 'Valley of the Priests,' was a highlight of my time in Hawaii. It is one of the last partially intact *ahupua'a* (native land-use systems) on the island. In its botanic collection, Waimea Valley includes more than 5,000 documented types of tropical and subtropical plants. I didn't count them all, but based on my visit I have no trouble believing that number.

"My stroll through the dozens of distinct gardens revealed a rich collection of native heirloom varieties of kalo, sweet potato, and banana. It also boasts one of the state's most extensive collections of loulu palms (including *Pritchardia remota*).

"The next leg of my adventure brought me to the **North Shore** of Oahu, known as the surfing mecca of the world. The beaches of the North Shore stretch for nearly seven miles, and many world-class surfing competitions are held there every year. During the winter months, the waves are known to reach heights of more than 30 feet, making the North Shore the perfect place for thrill-seekers.



"One of the most memorable places I went to in Maui was the **Old Lahaina Lu'au**. As you likely know, a lu'au (or *luau*) is a Hawaiian feast with entertainment, but nothing I've read or watched on TV prepared me for the fun, energy, and cultural significance of the lu'au.

"As you may have guessed, the best part about the lu'au was the food. The main dish was the pig, which was wrapped in banana leaves and cooked in an underground oven. They also served various taro-based dishes.

The lu'au ended with watching a beautiful sunset over the ocean. Does life get better than that?"


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Now take *Green Scene* with you wherever you go with your iPad!

Along with the e-version of *Green Scene* that members can access on their computers, PHS now offers an **Apple iPad version** of the magazine in brilliant color! When each issue is published, all qualifying members will receive an email containing links to each version.

As a further step, you can help us save the planet and reduce our printing bill by contacting us to **opt out** of the paper version of *Green Scene*. Just send an email to *memserv@pennhort.org* and we'll take care of the rest.

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Bloomin' Our Heads Off

AT this time of year, each one of us is reveling in the amazing horticultural show happening outside our windows. It seems like there's something new to look at every day, plus there's plenty to do to in our gardens, containers, and window boxes. At PHS, we put on a "growing" number of gardening events during May and June that we hope will complement the season.

For starters, visit our exhibition, **The Art of Begonias**, at the PHS McLean Library from May 14 to June 1. Join us for the Open House on May 15 and a closing plant sale on May 31. The show will feature spectacular fancy-leaf plants grown by members of the Delaware Valley Begonia Society and the experts at Meadowbrook Farm, and pictures from the Philadelphia Society of Botanical Illustrators. This is one leafy exhibit you'll *not* want to miss.

If you like to see other people's gardens, don't miss the **PHS Garden Visits** on May 20 and June 10. These self-guided tours are a rare treat open only to PHS members and their guests. The May visit will hit private gardens on the Main Line, while the June event will be centered around Gwynedd, PA. Register online for these tours by visiting *PHSonline.org* and clicking on "Calendar."

Have you been curious about **green roofs** and how they help the environment? Sign up for one of PHS's popular monthly tours of the green roof at the downtown headquarters of PECO, which PHS helps to maintain. The evening tours run on the third Tuesday of the month from April through October. The 45,000-square-foot PECO green roof features an observation deck and wonderful views of the city. Tour participants must be at least 18 years of age. Register at the PHS website.

Of course, spring is in full bloom at PHS's **Meadowbrook Farm** in Abington Township, PA. Meadowbrook's world-class nursery features everything from rare specimens to everyday annuals, and everything in between. You can also find trees and shrubs, potted plants, and decorative items in the Gift Shop. Lastly, you can stroll through the incredible formal and perennial gardens that surround the Meadowbrook Farm house, and take a tour of the house itself. If you haven't been there before, you will be blown away, *guaranteed.* Learn more at *meadowbrookfarm.org.*

If it's spring, it's a great time to check out **PHS Gold Medal Award plants** for your home landscape. These are beautiful and hardy trees, shrubs, and vines that perform brilliantly in the Mid-Atlantic region. Visit *goldmedalplants.org* to see images of the winners, as well as find local nurseries where you can purchase them.

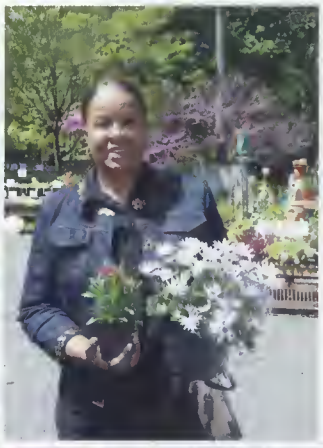
Want to know about more cool stuff going on at PHS? Check out the awesome **PHS Programs & Events catalog**, which covers all of our educational classes, workshops, tours, and more through August. This handy guide is indispensible for PHS members and garden fans alike. To get a copy, either email *pprown@pennhort.org* or download a PDF version at *PHSonline.org.*

See you in the garden this spring!

Pete Prown

email: *greenscene@pennhort.org*









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Pete Prown

Senior Editor
Jane Carroll

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May 2	Aspects and Aspirations of the Pinetum
May 9	Peonies in Bloom
May 16	Azalea and Rhododendron Hybrids and Hybridizers
May 23	H. F. du Pont's Quarry Garden: An Old Master's Final Masterpiece
May 30	Inspiring Home: Winterthur Plants for Your Home Garden
June 6	Keep Your Garden Watered Well
June 13	Magical Moss
June 20	Let's Get Composting
June 27	The Plants and Planning of Enchanted Woods

Second Saturdays Garden Walks

Learn fascinating, little-known details about the estate with our expert horticulture staff. Walks last approximately 90 minutes. ‡‡

May 12	Azaleas and Spring Wildflowers
June 9	Meadows, Streams, and Ponds

Brown Horticulture Learning Center to open!

Adapted from an original estate greenhouse, this new classroom and meeting space opening in early May will serve to enhance our outstanding gardening programming. What kind of programs would you like to see? E-mail **winterthur.org/Your Ideas.**

For more information call 800.448.3883 or visit **winterthur.org**.

† Included with admission. ‡‡ Members free.

Winterthur is nestled in Delaware's beautiful Brandywine Valley on Route 52, between I-95 and Route 1.

PHSLife

PHSLife is a new magazine section that will help you make the most of your PHS membership. From special discount opportunities to upcoming events, PHSLife will show you how valuable your membership can be.



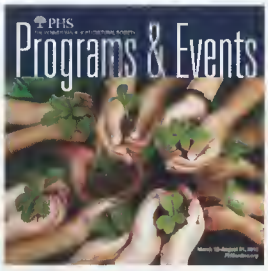
Mostardi's Nursery in Newtown Square, PA, is just one store where members get a discount on purchases. Visit our website for a complete list of vendors.

Use Your PHS Membership Card for Discounts

Your PHS membership card is your passport to savings at retail stores and nurseries throughout the region. In addition to great shopping discounts, PHS members may now take advantage of dining discounts at area restaurants that feature locally grown ingredients in their menu items.

Please present your valid PHS membership card to participating merchants *before* the sale or bill is rung up on the cash register; otherwise, merchants are not obligated to honor discounts. Most merchants offer a 10% discount; a few offer a higher or lower percentage. Discounts do not apply to merchandise already discounted, and additional restrictions may apply.

For more information, visit *PHSonline.org* and click on "Membership."



Take a Class or Enjoy a Lecture!

Learn about gardening! PHS offers educational programs on gardening throughout the year. Visit the calendar at *PHSonline.org* for additional programs or pick up a copy of the new Programs & Events catalog. PHS members receive discounted admission. To register for these programs, please visit *pennhort.net/eventregistration* or send an email to *programreg@pennhort.org.*

Visit the Calendar at *PHSonline.org* for more programs.



TWO FOR TEA

The Pleasures of Tea—
An Evening Tasting Workshop
Wednesday, June 20, 6 pm

Join PHS and international tea expert **Anupa Mueller** for an evening of discovery about the cultivation and enjoyment of tea. We will taste and compare eight to 10 different teas from renowned tea regions of the world, with an emphasis on India and China, including black, green, Oolong, flavored, and decaffeinated varieties.

Anupa Mueller was raised in Darjeeling, India, and is a world-class expert on the cultivation and enjoyment of fine teas and the global movement toward sustainable growing methods and fair-trade commerce. She is the owner and founder of Eco-Prima Tea in Tarrytown, New York.

Limit: 50. Fee: $25 members, $30 non members.



Visit Gardens Everywhere ... for Less

The PHS membership card is your passport to many of North America's finest gardens. Through the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admissions Program, PHS members receive special admission privileges at participating gardens throughout the United States and Canada, as well as the US Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands. Many gardens offer discounts on gift shop purchases and special events, too. It's just one more reason to keep your PHS membership card handy at all times.

For example, if you're traveling to New England this summer, you can check out wonderful gardens in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine, such as the beautiful Coastal Maine Botanical Garden in Boothbay (*pictured at left*).

Learn more about these and other great gardens at *ahs.org.* Click on Reciprocal Admissions Program. Please check each garden listing for discount information.

Volunteer during "Love Your Park" Week

May 12–19
Neighborhood Parks in Philadelphia

Join PHS staff and thousands of volunteers for Love Your Park Day on Saturday, May 12 in Philadelphia's neighborhood parks. Volunteer activities will include removing invasive weeds and vines, painting benches, preparing garden beds, and general cleanup. No gardening experience is necessary.

PHS is partnering with Fairmount Park Conservancy and Philadelphia Parks & Recreation on this citywide event. May 12 is the kick-off for an entire week of fun activities in parks throughout Philadelphia. From gardening workshops to Tai Chi to speed dating, there are dozens of ways to have fun and "love yout park."

For more information, please visit *Loveyourpark.org* or contact Jennifer Mahar at *jmahar@pennhort.org* or 215-988-1611.

PHS Garden Visits

Sunday, May 20, 12 noon-5 pm, The Main Line
Sunday, June 10, 12 noon-5 pm, Gwynedd, PA, area

PHS members will visit exceptional private gardens on the "Main Line," in the Philadelphia suburbs, and in the Gwynedd, PA, area. Access to these popular self-guided tours is an exclusive benefit for PHS members and their guests. We will provide garden descriptions, driving directions, and maps. You are free to visit any of the gardens during the five-hour period when they are open.

Fee: $15 members, $30 member guests/each date. To register, please visit *pennhort.net/eventregistration* or call 215-988-8869.



Member Benefits

Borrow Garden Books by Mail

Are you a PHS member who wants a good gardening book? As a member, you can use the PHS McLean Library's "Book by Mail" service to get titles sent directly to your home at a cost of $2.50 per book or DVD. You can select books by going to the PHS website and searching the library's online catalog (click on "All About Gardening" and then "McLean Library').

For more information, contact the circulation desk directly at 215-988-8772 or via email at *mcleanlibrary@pennhort.org.*

A Whole New Level of Fun!

If you're a PHS member, consider joining The 1827 Society. This group receives access to exclusive benefits, such as private parties and garden visits, behind-the-scenes Flower Show tours, and complimentary tickets to various PHS events.

Upper-level members get cool extras such as garden consultations and trolley tours of PHS greening projects around the city. And best of all, 1827 Society members know that their memberships are supporting PHS programs, such as City Harvest and Plant One Million.

To join The 1827 Society, email *giving@pennhort.org* or call 215-988-8766.

HGTV Comes to Meadowbrook Farm



HGTV is starting to promote the "G" in their name with a new line of garden products and plants. Among their offerings are annuals called "Ftiendly Fusions," and Meadowbrook Farm is the only nursery in Pennsylvania to carry them this spring.

With tangerine and orange among the hottest colots this year, the Meadowbrook team selected flowers in that color scheme with purples and blacks for contrast. Look for *Ipomea* 'Bright Ideas Black', *Petunia* 'Pulse Papaya', *Verbena* 'Empress Flair Peach', and *Euphorbia* 'Stardust Pink Shimmer'.

The plants come in three sizes: quart, gallon, and a 14-inch hanging basket. Meadowbrook Farm's Jacqueline Fisher says, "The gallon-size pots and hanging baskets have dazzling plant combinations, while the quarts contain individual plants for customers who want to create something unique on their own."

For information and hours, visit *meadowbrookfarm.org* or call 215-887-5900. Meadowbrook Farm is located at 1633 Washington Lane, in Abington Township, PA.

Bucks County Garden Tour on June 2nd

Save the date for the most talked about garden tour in Bucks County, where some of the finest gardens on earth attract more than butterflies and hummingbirds! Nearly 1,000 garden enthusiasts are expected to visit the six diverse, private Bucks County gardens featured in the 19th Annual New Hope Historical Society Garden Tour.



Visit *newhopehs.org* or call 215-862-5652 to ordet tickets now. Tickets will be available on tour day at the Parry Mansion Museum, 45 S. Main Street, New Hope, PA.

Tips for Growing Classic Roses



WITH OUR THOUGHTS TURNING TO ALL THINGS ENGLISH and the British-themed 2013 Philadelphia International Flower Show, *Brilliant*, we thought it would be a good time to sharpen your skills at growing classic roses. We asked Michael Marriott, senior rosarian for David Austin Roses, for a few tips on how to get peak performance and enjoyment from these brilliantly romantic, fragrant plants, including the latest Austin introductions, Princess Anne and Skylark.

- **Planting Distances.** Ideally, if you have the space, plant tight groups of three of the same variety. This allows the roses to grow together to form the appearance of one dense shrub, provides a more continuous display, and makes a stronger statement in the border. Plant approximately 18 inches apart within the group. Adjacent plants of other varieties should be planted approximately 3 feet away. For hedges, plant fairly close together—approximately 18 inches apart for maximum effect.

- **Soil Type.** Roses will grow in a wide range of soils. They do, however, appreciate good soil preparation. A generous quantity of well-rotted manure or garden compost, added before planting, will help to ensure strong growth.

- **Plant Quickly.** Plant bare-root roses as soon as possible. Never allow the roots to dry out at any time prior to or during planting. When planted, the base of the canes (bud union) should be about 4 inches below ground level in cold-winter areas and at ground level in mild-winter areas. Water well and mound the base of the canes with about 6 inches of compost, soil, or shredded bark mulch until the plants leaf out. Container roses should be soaked thoroughly before planting and planted at the same depth as bare-root roses.

- **Water.** Regular watering is essential; the rose will be stronger; healthier; and, most importantly, will produce more flowers.

- **Feed.** Roses, especially the repeat-flowering varieties, need a generous supply of nutrients regularly through the growing season, although fertilizer should not be applied too close to the onset of winter. Slow release or organic fertilizers applied to the ground are the most effective, but foliar feeds are also valuable for a quick effect and to help keep leaves healthy.

- **Mulch.** Mulching with organic matter (a wide range is available) is a very important part of rose growing. It helps conserve water, keeps the ground cool, and feeds the microorganisms and worms in the soil. Use well-rotted mulch, and if it starts to diminish during the season, reapply it.

Learn more at *davidaustinroses.com*, or by calling 800-328-8893.

Earth-Kind Roses

The Easiest Plants in Your Garden?

By Patricia A. Taylor

You might think the roses in this photograph were blooming on a fine morning in June, but they were captured last October. The plants are part of the Earth-Kind Rose trial at the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx, where 32 repeat-blooming varieties were planted in spring 2010.

Throughout the first two growing seasons—seasons featuring record-high summer temperatures, periods of drought, winter blizzards, and Hurricane Irene—they were never fertilized and never sprayed. More impressively, they were only watered during their first summer. After that, these Earth-Kind Roses were on their own.

So can roses be among the low-maintenance shrubs in your garden? In a word, *yes*. In 1996, Dr. Steve George at Texas A&M University began the Earth-Kind Rose research program, wherein the shrubs must bloom throughout a growing season despite little or no care. "We wanted to show everyone, especially those who are not yet gardeners, how successful they can be with certain landscape roses that are beautiful, easy to grow, and—contrary to public perceptions—do not need any harsh chemicals," Dr. George says, "and we have."

The Texas results persuaded Peter Kukielski, NYBG's rosarian, to try a similar approach at his home base. "No such program existed for the Northeast," he says, "and I thought we should have representation in this great movement."

The plan was to place the trial near the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden. The powers-that-be, however, fearing a patch of dead plants—which they thought surely would happen when roses weren't fertilized or sprayed—decreed that the trial bed had to be secluded. It was tucked in an area with at least half a day of sun and good air circulation. Now visitors to the Garden go out of their way to seek out the trial area.

As part of a scientific endeavor, Kukielski had to follow Earth-Kind guidelines for his test plots. In addition to no fertilizers or pesticides and minimal water, these parameters included rototilling three inches of compost into the soil before planting, using only own-root roses (not grafted), and dressing all plants with three inches of mulch in both spring and fall. And that's it.

While all roses performed well—not a dud in the lot—some were exceptional. With the help of volunteers who record monthly evaluations covering foliage, abundance of flowers, and growth habit, Kukielski reports that the following cultivars have received the highest marks to date: Mandarin Ice, All the Rage, Knock Out, Ole, and Home Run. With the exception of Knock Out, all have been introduced within the past five years. This last has not surprised Kukielski, who points out that "the program meets the gardening public's demand for chemical-free plants and has spurred breeders to create great, care-free roses."

Try them. You'll really appreciate them as you sit back and relax while enjoying their color and beauty all season.

The website *nybg.org/gardens/rose-garden/earthkind.php* lists all roses in the NYBG trial.

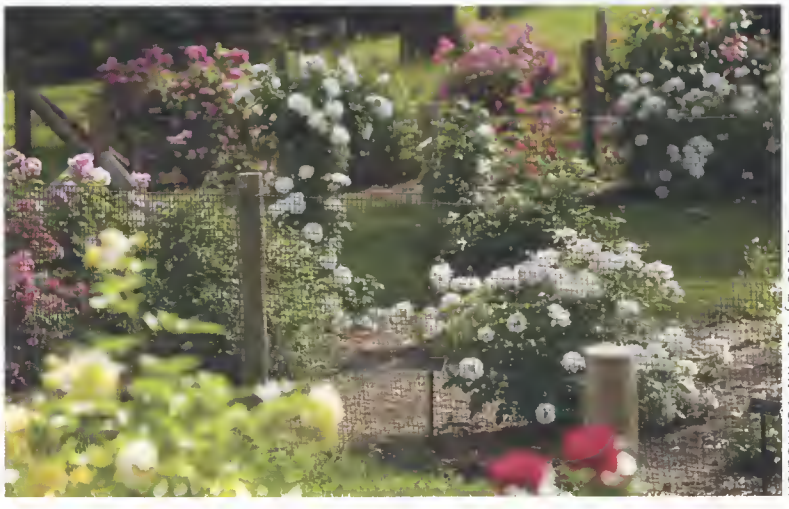


Photo by Ivo. M. Vermeulen

Developed by Texas AgriLife Extension Service of the Texas A&M System, Earth-Kind® Landscaping promotes "research-proven techniques to provide maximum garden and landscape enjoyment while preserving and protecting the environment." For more about Earth-Kind gardening, visit *aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/*.



The Art of Growing ROSEMARY

One of my favorite holiday rituals is the *Coming of the Lasagna*. Every Christmas, my friend Sarah brings over an aluminum platter tied up with fancy satin ribbons and topped off by long fragrant branches from her husband Reno's rosemary bush, a well-sheltered specimen of *Rosmarinus officinalis* growing in their Zone 5 garden. It's a celebratory presentation, and certainly Sarah's homemade lasagna with the chicken livers and creamy Béchamel sauce deserves nothing less.

The first time I put Reno's rosemary "twigs" into a jar of water I was merely angling for extra counter space. Yet that little herb bouquet sat on my kitchen windowsill the whole holiday season, and as the days got longer and sunshine started backlighting the prisms of the glass I could see magnified nodules forming along the branches that were below the water line.

By the end of January there were strands of thread-like hairs. When a mass of white roots filled the jar, it was my Louis Pasteur moment. I had accidentally discovered an easier method of starting rosemary "trees"—with far more elegant results—than what I originally described in my book, *The Potted Herb* (1988).

The only tricky part might be getting water roots to change their lifestyle and start living it up in terra firma. The sooner this happens, the better, so I will transplant each rosemary tree-to-be into its own 3-inch plastic pot right after all the branches are putting out roots. That gives me enough candidates for next year's holiday gifts, with back-up recruits if some don't make it. My potting medium is a well-drained mix with lots of gravel—think Mediterranean countries—but light on organic matter such as the humus-like soil ot compost that you'd find in a forest whete, obviously, rosemary doesn't grow.

Next bit of business is how much greenery to remove from the stems. Though there are two schools of thought, I've tried it both ways and can honestly report back: it won't make a difference. But if you're of the opinion that photosynthesis works better with more leaves left on the stem, go for it. Personally, I admire athletes who practice visualization exercises, imagining what theit goal is right from the kick-off, and so I try to simulate how my plants should shape up in the endgame, pinching off unnecessary leaves right away. I say enjoy yout fresh rosemary—tonight—under the skin of a roasted chicken. Or why not add pizzazz to that take-out pizza?

After removing lower leaves *but* allowing three-inches of green to remain at the top, I also pinch out the growing tip at this time. Energy is now tedirected into produc-

OR AS THE PROVERB GOES, "A

ARY TREES

Story and illustrations by Abbie Zabar

ing a bushy head, rather than adding more height. After all, I'm already working with a tall and elegant starter proportion, a stem that is 12 to 15 inches high from the top of the pot—one of the perks of rooting longer branches of rosemary rather than short semi-hardwood cuttings the way I used to do it.

Next, I wiggle a bamboo stake into the soil, right alongside the rosemary, and tie both verticals together with thin pieces of raffia. The top surface is tamped down with the etaser end of a pencil, and then misted until watet is seeping out the bottom. After that I place my potted-up twigs of tosemary in a bright and sunny window, clustered together on a platter filled with pebbles and some water, because they look good all hanging out together, enjoying the ambient humidity. There's no dedicated watering schedule, which forces a grower to pay attention, but generally speaking I water when the soil feels dry one inch down or if the pots feel light in weight. However, never let the soil get bone dry. During the winter months I regularly treat the gang to showers under the kitchen faucet, which also keeps their leaves clean of potential infestation.

I do not cut off any lateral branches at this stage; if I need rosemary for a recipe, I keep pinching out the growing tips. This will contribute to bushier heads, as well as thickening up the trunks. Our goal is to eventually remove the bamboo stakes so that each rosemary tree, like any well-grown ttee, can support top growth on its own.

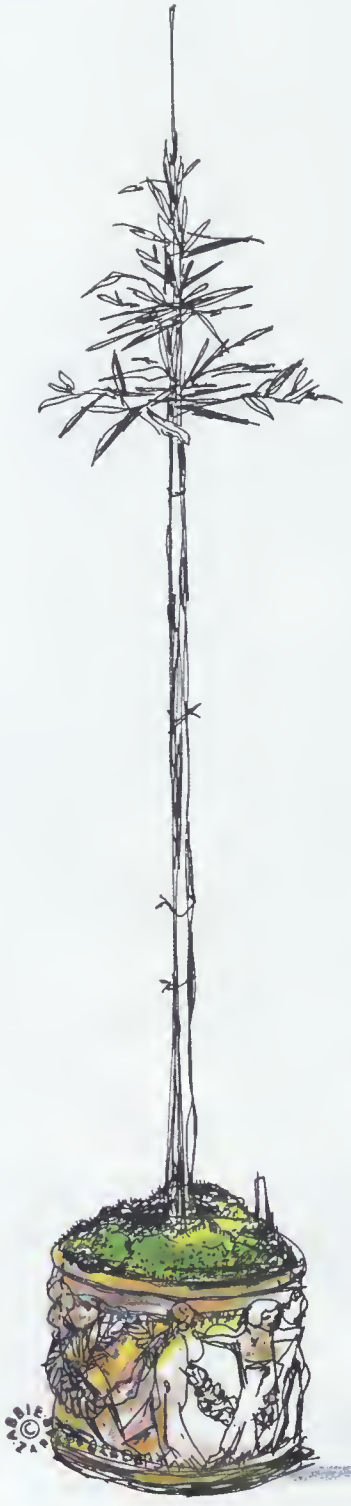
I'll have the beginnings of a rosemary arboretum by springtime following this routine. That's about when I'm repotting all of them into individual porous clay containers, which means really staying on top of the watering, but I want the pots to *breathe*. Besides, it's visually worth it.

As soon as the days get warmer, the whole collection goes outside, where they are hand wateted every morning—just as the sun comes up—and fed with a weak compost tea, weekly.

For me, gardening is an exquisite process. From a holiday bouquet that's also a work-in-progress, to the transplanting, the pruning, even the pleasure of tying neat little wisps of raffia, it's an art happening at every single stage. Enjoy the the rooting and the route.

Abbie Zabar writes about gardening in New York City as the ongoing urban challenge. Her illustrated articles appear in many American and British publications, and her book, *The Potted Herb*, is now considered a garden classic.

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TWIG IN TIME, BECOMES A TREE"

Oh Deer! How to Save

by Laura Brandt

A DEER VENTURES INTO OUR GARDEN SANCTUARIES, WE STRUGGLE TO BANISH THEM.

Suburban sprawl has created ideal deer habitat: private cul-de-sacs, wooded home sites, more forest edge, lush plantings, and well-tended lawns. It's as if we've put out a sign saying "Deer Diner." Although these creatures seem at home in the landscapes we've created, most are not welcome (though to be honest, we're in *their* landscape). Rather than hiding, deer today are parading down the middle of Wisteria Lane!

By understanding deer vulnerabilities and behaviors, you can make your property less attractive to these nimble—and hungry—four-legged creatures. While it may not be possible to eliminate all the deer damage all the time, you can use effective strategies for minimizing the destruction in your yard.

"A multi-faceted approach works best," says Josh Morin, manager and ISA-certified arborist for Bartlett Tree Experts in Bala Cynwyd. "Deer are highly adaptable animals. The damage they do is directly based on their level of hunger and the amount of available food," he says. "Most damage occurs in their established walking, feeding, and bedding routes. The key is to interrupt their established patterns so that they'll find easier places to feed." Deer will look for "fast food" the same way that we do when we're really hungry. If they find a barrier, they'll move to a buffet down the road.

There are three basic approaches to deer management: employing noxious repellents, constructing physical barriers like fences, and planting distasteful plants.

Deer Repellents

Many of us have tried or heard about using soaps and human hair to repel deer. According to Rhonda Massingham Hart in her book, *Deerproofing Your Yard and Garden*, tallow-based (animal origin) soaps can be effective at the rate of 450 bars per acre. However, these soaps tend to attract rodents who will chew on soapy bark. Human or pet hair scattered around the garden may offend wild deer; however, it is not as effective with more urbanized deer.

Most deer repellents on the market today generally contain mixtures of garlic, putrescent egg solids, and hot peppers. Some may contain peppermint oil, white pepper, cloves, or cinnamon. Their efficacy depends on factors such as application method and coverage, seasonality, and weather conditions. Many need re-application after it rains.



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Your Garden from Bambi

Whether you or a professional applies deer repellents, be sure to include an application in mid-October through mid-November. "It's important to get a repellent down before the deer set up their feeding patterns for the winter," says Patrick Parker, program director for SavATree, in Bedford Hills, NY. SavATree's residential applications last for a month or two, and some last up to six months, explains Parker. "Repellents improve each year, but I haven't seen anything that works one hundred percent. Deer nibble treated plants just to see if it's something good to eat." The best advice for applying sprays is to "switch it up," because the deer get used to odor-based repellents, Parker notes. Keep the deer guessing!

Rotating repellents and constantly outthinking the deer takes time away from your



enjoyment of your property. If you don't want to spend your time chasing animals, like Bill Murray's maniacal character in the movie *Caddyshack*, consider fencing.

Fences

Deer can easily jump over a 5-foot fence, and the most ambitious animals can clear 6 to 8 feet.

Ideally, your entire property should be fenced in *before* deer damage starts. Typical deer fences are constructed of wood, metal, plastic, or composite posts secured with galvanized wire mesh and standing about 8 feet high. Although effective, they may be too conspicuous for many homeowners. "Invisible" prefabricated deer netting is both effective and aesthetically pleasing. Constructed of black plastic mesh, the material blends into the landscape while protecting the property.

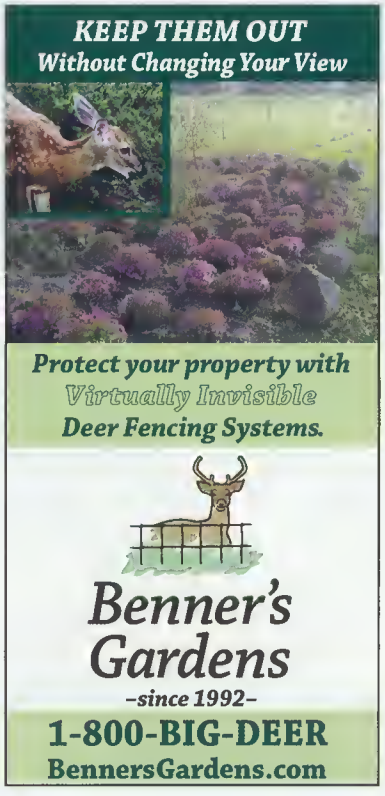
For over two decades, Benner's Gardens of Phoenixville has been helping residential customers exclude deer from their properties with high-strength polypropylene mesh fencing systems. The company has a variety of do-it-yourself kits available in various lengths, starting at 100 feet of fencing material, at heights of 7 to 8 feet. Installation options are available for both small and large properties.

"Due to their poor eyesight and visual depth perception, deer have trouble discerning the height of the fencing material and won't risk getting injured trying to jump over it," says Guy Keon, general manager of Benner's Gardens retail operation.

With the new sturdy clip system from Benner's Gardens, the fence material can be attached to a fencepost. "If a client has an existing fence, the material can be installed using the existing support posts and around existing trees," says Keon.

The mesh fencing can be used on a seasonal basis in limited areas. "Some use the fencing only in winter to protect evergreens," Keon adds. "Others use the fencing around the pool area to prevent deer trampling the pool cover during winter."

While fencing can be effective, something simpler may be worthwhile. One of the most promising tactics to try, according to Hart, is monofilament or fishing line that is strung 2 to 3 feet high. The deer will bump into it and retreat elsewhere. Just make sure you don't bump into it too!



Designing for Deer

Beverly Auvil, of Beverly Auvil Landscape Design, often designs gardens for clients with deer issues. This Quakertown-based professional landscape designer's own yard once served as the local deer buffet.

"I tell my clients that the only reliable protection against deer damage is fencing," says Auvil. "Deer can jump high and they can jump far, but they can't do both. Installing two 4-foot-high fences, 4 feet apart, solved my deer problem. I recommend this strategy to my clients."

When designing gardens for residents in deer-prone areas, Auvil uses primarily native plants that deer do not like, such as *Monarda*, *Asclepias*, ferns, American holly, native pieris (*Pieris floribunda*), switchgrass varieties (*Panicum* sp.), and herbs like lavender.

While there are many lists regarding plants and deer, one thing is certain: the deer do not read them. Deer fodder depends on regional and individual preferences—just like with humans. That said, professionals find Rutgers University's list of "Landscape Plants Rated by Deer Resistance" useful. We have included a short list of plants of both deer preferences and dislikes, based on this list. In general, deer will avoid fuzzy, smelly, prickly, and bitter plants. Then again, they eat thorny roses, *don't they?*

Laura Brandt is a "Bucks" County garden writer who sees an occasional buck or two in her garden.

Deer Likes & Dislikes

Deer Candy

- American arborvitae (*Thuja occidentalis*)
- Cherry, plum trees (*Prunus* sp.)
- Hostas
- Rhododendron sp. (includes azaleas)
- Strawberry (*Fragraria* sp.)
- Tulips
- Wintercreeper (*Euonymus fortunei*)
- Yew (*Taxus* sp.)

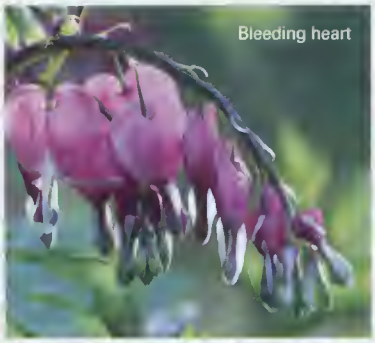
Distasteful to Deer

- Andromeda (*Pieris* sp.)
- Bayberry (*Myrica* sp.)
- Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra* sp.)
- Boxwood (*Buxus* sp.)
- Catmint (*Nepeta* sp.)
- Ferns
- Garlic, Chives, Onions (*Allium* sp.)
- Herbs: e.g. Thyme, Oregano, Rosemary
- Mint Family Plants (mentha, salvia, lavender)
- Northern Sea Oats (*Chasmanthium* sp.)
- Russian Sage (*Perovskia* sp.)
- Switch Grass (*Panicum* sp.)

SOURCE:
njaes.rutgers.edu/deerresistance

Deer dislike most of these plants.

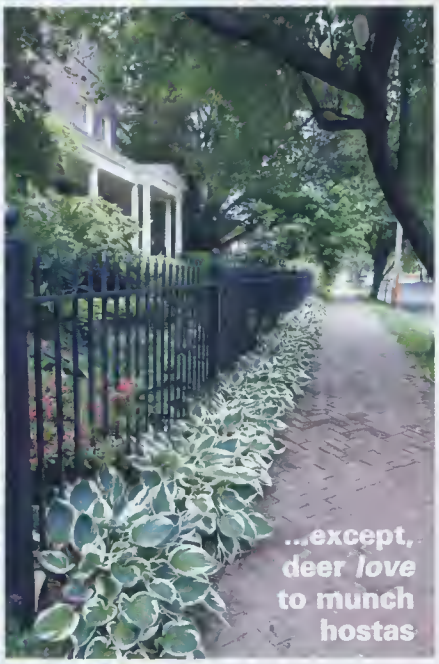




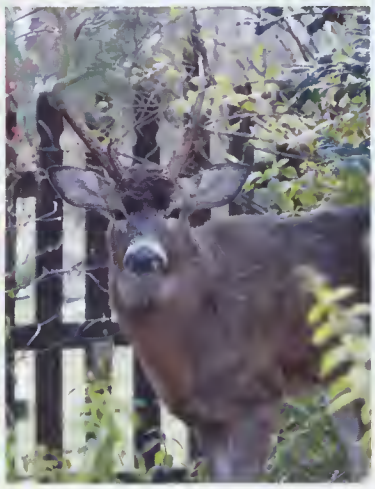














Photos by Laura Brandt

Web Resources

Rutgers: Deer Damage Management Information
snyderfarm.rutgers.edu/deer.html

Benner's Gardens
bennersgardens.com

Bartlett Tree Experts
bartlett.com

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Rejuvenating the

PHS and Its Partners Work to Polish a Philly Gem

by Denise Cowie



Like a rich tapestry, Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin Parkway unfurls for more than a mile, from the Philadelphia Museum of Art to City Hall. Stretching along its length, one artistic or educational vignette after another illustrates the depth and variety of the city's cultural attractions. Weaving them all together with threads of green is the art of horticulture—the numerous parks and gardens that beautify the broad boulevard and give it human scale.

When the new Barnes Foundation museum opens on May 19, it will add to the wealth of both art and horticulture along the Parkway, for the galleries that house the Barnes's world-famous collection of Impressionist, Post-Impressionist, early Modern art, and other artifacts are surrounded by 4.5 acres of gardens designed by renowned landscape architect Laurie Olin.

The gardens are intended to help visitors transition from the busy street to a calmer state as they prepare to view great art. But Olin also wanted to reference Dr. Albert Barnes and his estate in Merion, Pa., where the collection originally resided in galleries surrounded by an arboretum.

"Part of what we have tried to do is produce a landscape that is quite rich and has specific plants, and ensembles of plants, that recall things from that estate, and give it an ambience that you normally wouldn't be able to find in the city," Olin says.

The new museum will celebrate its opening with a three-day party over the Memorial Day weekend, when it will be open free to the public. The opening might be considered a culminating achievement in a years-long series of upgrades and improvements that have polished the Parkway's luster and made it ever more inviting to pedestrians.

"The whole idea is to make the Parkway less of a highway, to make it more people-friendly and walkable," says Nancy Goldenberg, vice president of planning for the Center City District. "Over a decade of work, we now have this wonderful new landscape and new destinations to have fun in and visit."

Some of the enhancements are low-key but make a big difference to visitor enjoyment, such as improved signage, safer pedestrian crossings, bike lanes, effective lighting, and new places to sit and eat.

Other changes have a more dramatic impact, such as the 2006 restoration of the gardens surrounding the splendid Swann Memorial Fountain at Logan Square, also designed by Olin's firm, OLIN. The project was overseen by PHS, and the landscape includes lush planting beds that change with the seasons, as well as new *Paulownia tomentosa* trees grown especially for the site by Longwood Gardens. More recent refurbishments include the gardens surrounding the Museum of Art and the addition of a sculpture garden atop underground parking; rejuvenation of the historic landscaping at the Rodin Museum; and renovation of pocket parks like Aviatot Park, Three Parkway Plaza, and Shakespeare Park.

"The Parkway is ready to showcase itself to the world once again, especially around the Barnes opening," says Drew Becher, president of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS), which plays a major role in many of the landscapes along the boulevard. "I think it will help define Philadelphia as having one of the

PARKWAY

preeminent streets in the world."

Starting this spring, the attractions of the Parkway Museums District are at the heart of "With Art Philadelphia," a promotional campaign "prompted by the idea that the world's biggest art story is happening in Philadelphia," says Cara Schneider of the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation. Aimed at visitors from all over the globe, the campaign is supported by a coalition of cultural interests and embraces visual arts in all their forms.

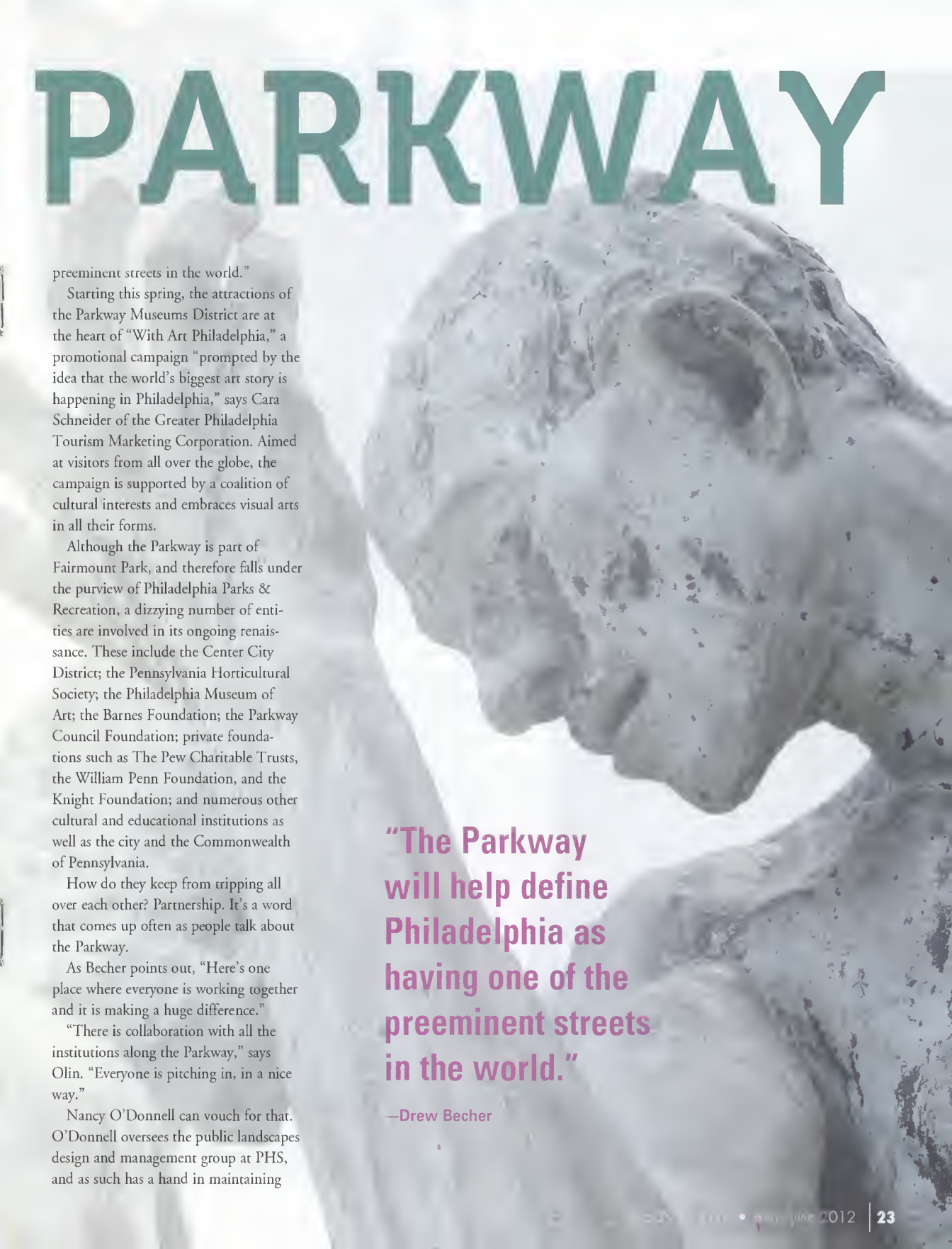
Although the Parkway is part of Fairmount Park, and therefore falls under the purview of Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, a dizzying number of entities are involved in its ongoing renaissance. These include the Center City District; the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society; the Philadelphia Museum of Art; the Barnes Foundation; the Parkway Council Foundation; private foundations such as The Pew Charitable Trusts, the William Penn Foundation, and the Knight Foundation; and numerous other cultural and educational institutions as well as the city and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

How do they keep from tripping all over each other? Partnership. It's a word that comes up often as people talk about the Parkway.

As Becher points out, "Here's one place where everyone is working together and it is making a huge difference."

"There is collaboration with all the institutions along the Parkway," says Olin. "Everyone is pitching in, in a nice way."

Nancy O'Donnell can vouch for that. O'Donnell oversees the public landscapes design and management group at PHS, and as such has a hand in maintaining



"The Parkway will help define Philadelphia as having one of the preeminent streets in the world."

—Drew Becher

Art on the Parkway


The new Barnes Foundation


Philadelphia Museum of Art


The Azalea Garden


Sister Cities Park


Rodin Museum


Logan Square

a variety of gardens along the Parkway—or parts of them.

"PHS manages some of the grounds at the art museum, including the front flanking the steps, the courtyard, and Anne d'Harnoncourt Drive up to the west entrance, but not the sculpture garden," she explains. PHS also has responsibility—along with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation—for the Azalea Garden behind the museum and the gardens at Logan Square and the Rodin Museum. (That museum will reopen this summer.)

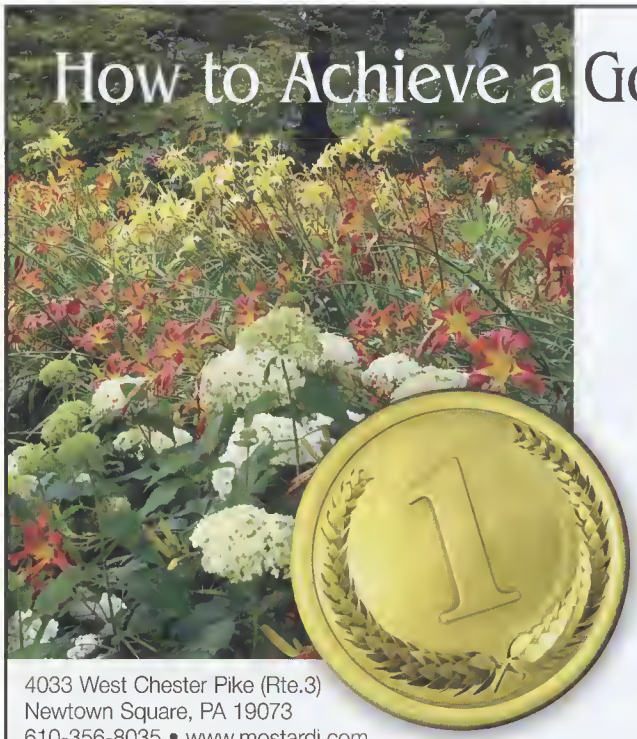
Maintaining public gardens means dealing with the public, but O'Donnell has encountered very little deliberate vandalism. More often, the problem is people taking shortcuts that tear up turf, or revelers falling into the flower beds. But anything can happen, and occasionally does, such as the night a car became airborne and landed in the Logan Square gardens.

Since last year, PHS has used no pesticides or herbicides on these sites. "It's totally organic," O'Donnell says, which means that "instead of trying to treat problems with individual plants, it's about soil structure—building it up, using compost and compost tea, and so on."

In addition to the Barnes, another garden will open on the Parkway in May. Under the guidance of the Center City District, Sister Cities Park, in front of the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, has been redesigned to include a children's garden at the north end with an adjacent boat pond, and a bluestone plaza at the southern end with a fountain commemorating Philadelphia's "Sister Cities"—it has 10 of them. The garden area is inspired by the Wissahickon Valley, Goldenberg says, and will feature boulders and tree logs and a meandering path for kids that mimics a river.

"There's a new café pavilion in the middle with a green roof, and all the vegetation is native,"

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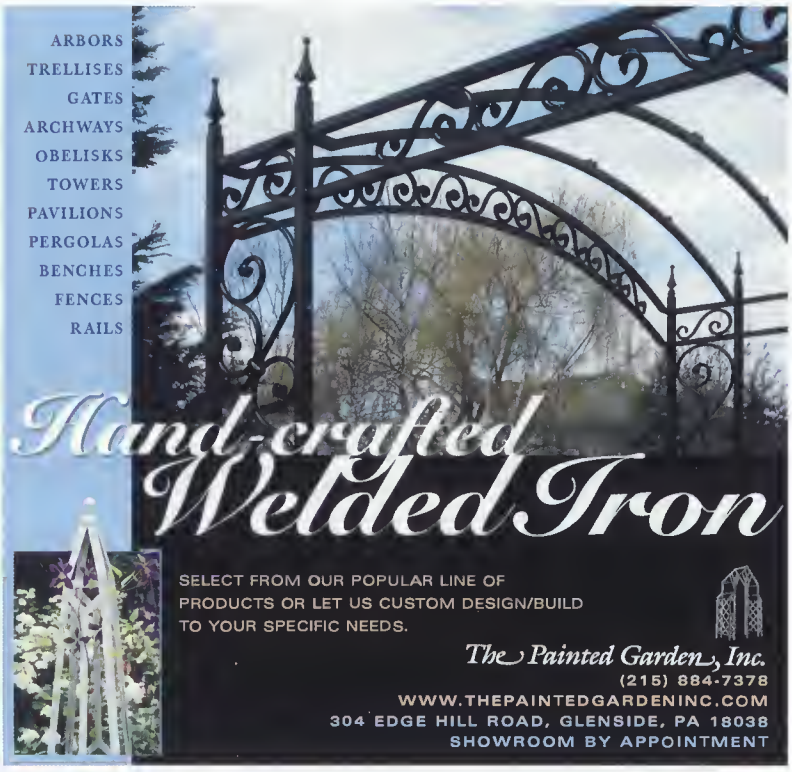
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she adds. "And Independence Visitor Center will open a satellite desk within the pavilion, where they will sell tickets to [Parkway] institutions and give out visitor information."

But the Parkway partners don't plan to rest on their laurels. Construction is already underway on an ambitious reinvention of City Hall's Dilworth Plaza, designed by OLIN's Sue Weiler. Others, including PHS, envision spectacular special events and outdoor exhibits that could not only engage the city but attract throngs of tourists.

And the Parkway Council Foundation is gearing up to celebrate the Parkway's centennial.

Although the planning and construction of the boulevard stretched over a number of years, "we're grabbing onto November 2018 as the 100-year anniversary of when the Parkway was available for driving on," says Judi Rogers, executive director of the Parkway Council Foundation. "We're working on all sorts of activities leading up to it."



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The Zen of

By Cory Stieg
Phototgraphs by Jennifer Lin



It's possible to miss the entrance to Maple Acres Farm, just at the bend in Narcissa Road in Plymouth Meeting, PA. The farm's sign humbly welcomes customers to the vegetable stand, located down the lane next to an eighteenth-century stone farmhouse.

But then you see the zinnias.

A carpet of them—row after row, thousands of them, in every hue of pink, orange, and yellow, spread across the acres like a French pointillist painting framed by trees. In season, a steady stream of cars pulls in, carrying florists, weekend gardeners, and suburban families shopping for fresh produce. Few can resist the zinnias: a couple of bunches for a dinner party, or several hundred for a wedding. They pull fresh-cut blooms from buckets at the store, or wade into the chest-high sea of flowers with a pair of scissors helpfully provided by the proprietors.

Gary McKeown, 56, represents the third generation of McKeowns to work the farm, which is celebrating its centennial this year. In addition to growing the usual tomatoes, squash, corn, peppers, and beans, he has been seeding and transplanting zinnias—and handing out scissors—for about two decades.

"When people come they know they're getting [flowers] right off the plant. It's not like they're sitting there, imported—they're fresh that day," McKeown says.

Gary's grandfather, James H. McKeown, a coal hauler from Ireland, purchased 12 acres in 1912. On weekends, he'd load up his horse-drawn cart and sell asparagus door-to-door in Philadelphia. Now, the farm is bordered on the south by the Pennsylvania Turnpike, and the Plymouth Meeting Mall is just a few hundred yards away. But a buffer of trees preserves a sense of isolation amid the sprawl of suburbia.

McKeown's sister, Sally McCracken, recalls selling sweet corn as a child with another brother, Terry, from a picnic bench along the road. "There was no noise, no traffic, no nothing. I would run out and literally stop them in the middle of the road and yell 'Sweet corn!'" McCracken says.

Sally, inspired by the cutting garden of her mother-in-law, a PHS member, suggested growing and selling zinnias about 20 years ago. "I just tried

Zinnias

An Ocean of Color at Maple Acres Farm







one row, and the response from the customers! They just loved it," she says.

Business blossomed, so to speak, and McKeown kept adding rows. Today, eight of the farm's 30 acres are devoted to zinnias. "Most people would've never planted that much," McKeown said. "People thought it was a waste of space, but it's just something different than a regular vegetable stand."

What was once a simple farm has become a real business, with strawberries in late spring, hayrides in autumn, potted plants, garden furniture, and on-staff florists. Surplus produce goes to an Amish family who turns it into jams and butters and sauces, or is fed to the farm's cows and pigs, which are raised hormone-free.

And those fields of zinnia provide natural advertising. "There was so much response for the flowers," Sally says. "We got different people in. Now the flowers are just as important as the produce."

Zinnias come in as many colors as they do different sizes, making them perfect for weddings. At the summer peak, customers load cars with hundreds of stems. New varieties

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are constantly introduced. "There's a lime green, which has been a big color for the last several years," says Colleen Rodgers, a Maple Acres florist.

"People ask, 'You don't sell all of those flowers, do you?'" McKeown says. "We don't. You could never sell them all. But people love to see it."

Zinnias are ideal for a pick-your-own farm. "They keep branching, the more you cut them," Sally says. "A little kid could cut a bloom and that thing's still going to thrive and branch."

McKeown, who learned to farm alongside his father (also named James H. McKeown) starts a mix (usually from the Benary seed company) of zinnia seeds in 72-hole trays with peat moss in his greenhouse in March. Seedlings are transplanted outdoors using tractors in June—15,000 of them. Once in the soil outside, they lay underneath plastic sheeting where they're irrigated, two rows at a time. By July, they're in full bloom. The huge supply keeps prices low; one bunch of seven sells for $1.50. During the

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winter, McKeown tests the soil, works on cover crops, and lays fertilizer.

Sally McCracken is proud of how her brother has kept the family farm thriving, and she loves still being a part of it. "Opening the farm to the public was a big step to take," she says. "Gary's heart, and his life, is the farm." Sally knows that their father—and their grandfather—would approve. "If you don't change with the times," she says, "a farm will go under."

Gary's off-season work pays off as summer arrives when the fields of zinnias bloom anew, catching the eyes of motorists on Narcissa Road. Whether they're stumbling upon Maple Acres for the first time or have been coming for years, the McKeown family welcomes them in, scissors in hand.

Maple Acres Farm is located at 2656 Narcissa Road in Plymouth Meeting, PA. For more information, call 610-828-7395 or visit *mapleacresfarm.com*. Look for the zinnias starting in early June.



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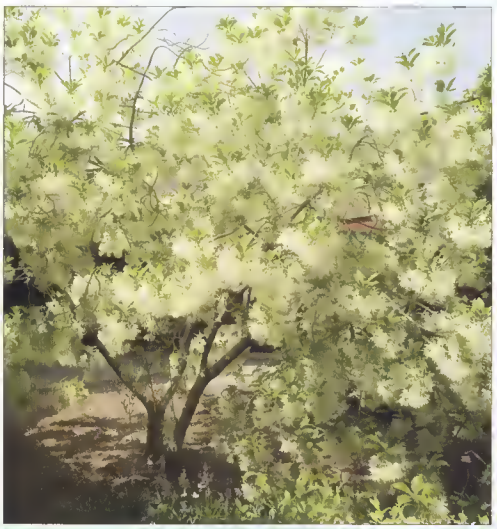
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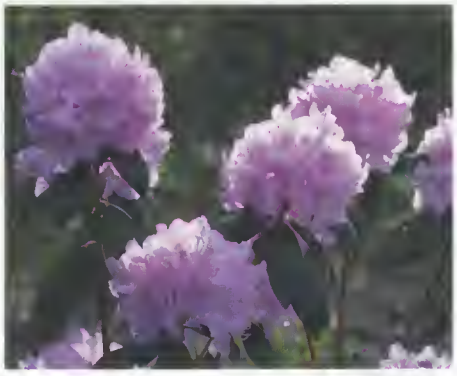
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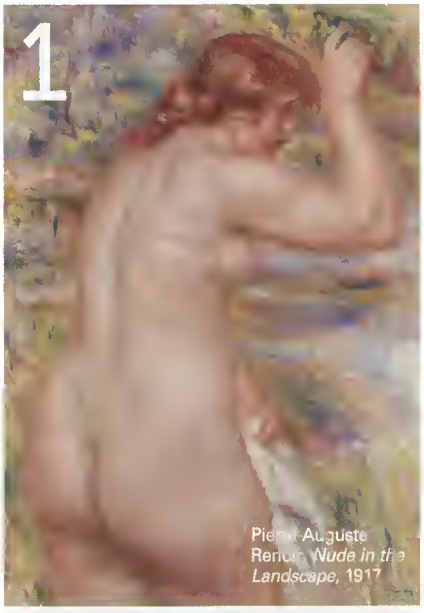

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Art in Bloom

By Jane Godshalk, AIFD • Photographs by Laura Pearson



Soft, muted colors, vibrant light, and curving lines create a voluptuous female form. A landscape of delicate brush strokes gives contrast and a wash of color.



Voluptuous form and soft impressionistic brush strokes are captured in this rounded structure of feathers. Spring flowers, tulips, viburnum, anemone, and cherry branches add subtle contrast and curving line.



Monochromatic colors, tints and tones of green, and subtle accents of blue and orange make this forest a mysterious place. The lady in the light *Belle Époque* dress is an unexpected focal point.



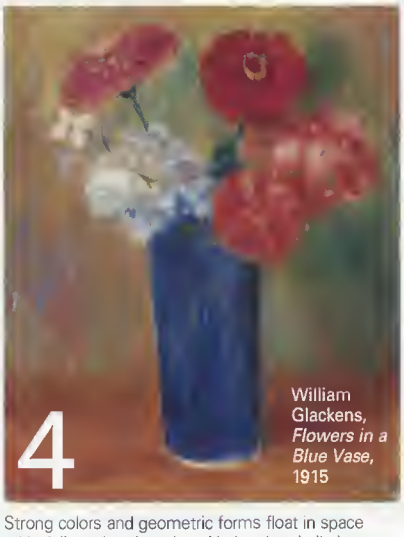
A parallel design captures the spirit of Rousseau with green tree fern, aralia leaf, blue agapanthus, orange ornithogalum, and kangaroo paw. The focal flower, white lisianthus edged in pink, mimics the lady.

Mont Sainte-Victoire, in Provence, with its green fields, trees, and shadows dancing over the landscape, was a favorite topic for Cezanne.





The floral interpretation of Cezanne's painting uses horizontal planes to mirror the striations of *Mont Sainte-Victoire*. Muted earth tones contrast with forms of green and gold, while an under color of violet evokes the purple shadows.



Strong colors and geometric forms float in space with delicate brushstrokes. Notice the similarity to the background in Renoir's nude.



The strong interplay of blue hydrangea, *Dianthus* Green Trick, red gerbera, and hypericum berries make rounded forms that overlap in a spirited dance. Spheres of willow and green yarn add a contemporary accent, and lirope shelters the design.

Along with art lovers everywhere, PHS and other organizations are celebrating the opening of the new Barnes Foundation campus on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Philadelphia this May. This extensive collection includes works by some of the greatest European and American masters of Impressionism, Post-Impressionist, and early Modern art, as well as African sculpture, Pennsylvania German decorative arts, Native American textiles, metalwork, and more.

Gardens, landscapes, and flowers were the inspirations for many of the artists in the Barnes collection, including Renoir, Cezanne, and Matisse. Dr. Barnes, along with his wife, Laura, encouraged this relationship with renowned education programs in both horticulture and art.

Universal elements of design can be found in all aspects of nature and relate to both painting and floral design. These elements, color, line, form, light, space, size, texture, and pattern, make it possible to interpret the work of artists using flowers.

1. Renoir

The Barnes Foundation has the largest collection of Renoir paintings in the world. Renoir was among the founders of the Impressionist style and captured light and color with delicate brushstrokes.

2. Cezanne

Post-Impressionist painter Paul Cezanne is often called the Father of Modernism. His planes of color and delicate brush strokes marked the beginning of abstraction.

3. Rousseau

Post Impressionist Henri Rousseau painted in the Native or Primitive style. Although he never visited exotic places, his dream-like paintings transport viewers to other lands.

4. Glackens

As native Philadelphians, Albert Barnes and William Glackens shared an interest in drawing and art at Central High School. Glackens became a well-known American realist painter.

Art images courtesy of The Barnes Foundation





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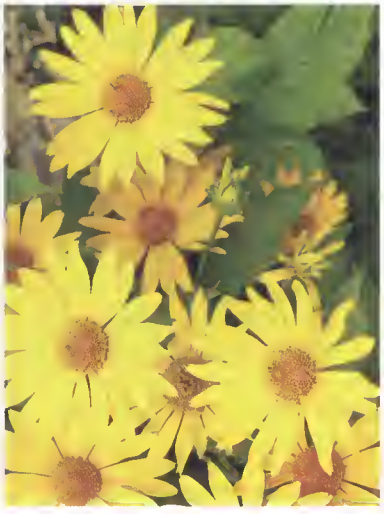
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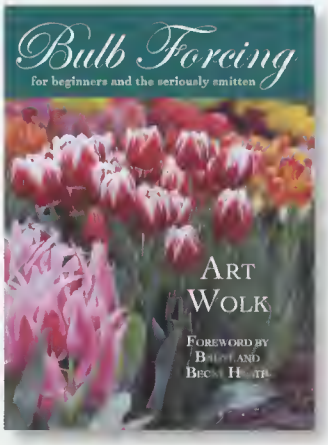
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In his new book, *Bulb Forcing for Beginners & the Seriously Smitten,* Art breaks down the process into easy-to-follow components, from planting bulbs in the appropriate growing medium to timing their dormant periods. He writes, "Bulb forcing requires no green thumb. As long as you can put soil and bulbs in a pot without mortally wounding yourself, you'll succeed." His book is filled with this kind of gentle humor. Better yet, Art is an ace photographer, and there are over 350 beautiful images to help you achieve bulb nirvana. Look for a copy of *Bulb Forcing for Beginners and the Seriously Smitten* at the McLean Library. It is also available at *gardenlunacy.com* or Amazon.

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A GIFT That Can CHANGE LIVES

By Daniel Moise & Pete Prown



With more than 40 years of volunteering for PHS under this belt, Alan Slack has seemingly done it all. From serving on PHS Council to chairing Flower Show committees and answering questions in the McLean Library, Alan is equal parts gardening knowledge, enthusiasm, and roll-up-your-sleeves determination.

Alan has another passion, too—making sure PHS and its work will be sustained in the future. Alan has made wonderful gifts to the organization, including 450 gardening books to the Library. He sold a vacation house on the Chesapeake Bay and donated the proceeds to PHS.

At this point in his life, however, Alan, who is in his eighties, has wanted to do something more. As a result, he made a generous gift to PHS in his will. This gift will assist PHS across the broad spectrum of future activities, from the acclaimed City Harvest program that feeds hungry families to caring for the beautiful downtown landscapes of Philadelphia. It will even help out the Flower Show's amazing "Horticourt" that he so dearly loves.

What inspired Alan? "I owe more to PHS than PHS owes me," he says with a typically big smile. "It's been a grand experience, and I've made *a ton* of super friends over the years."

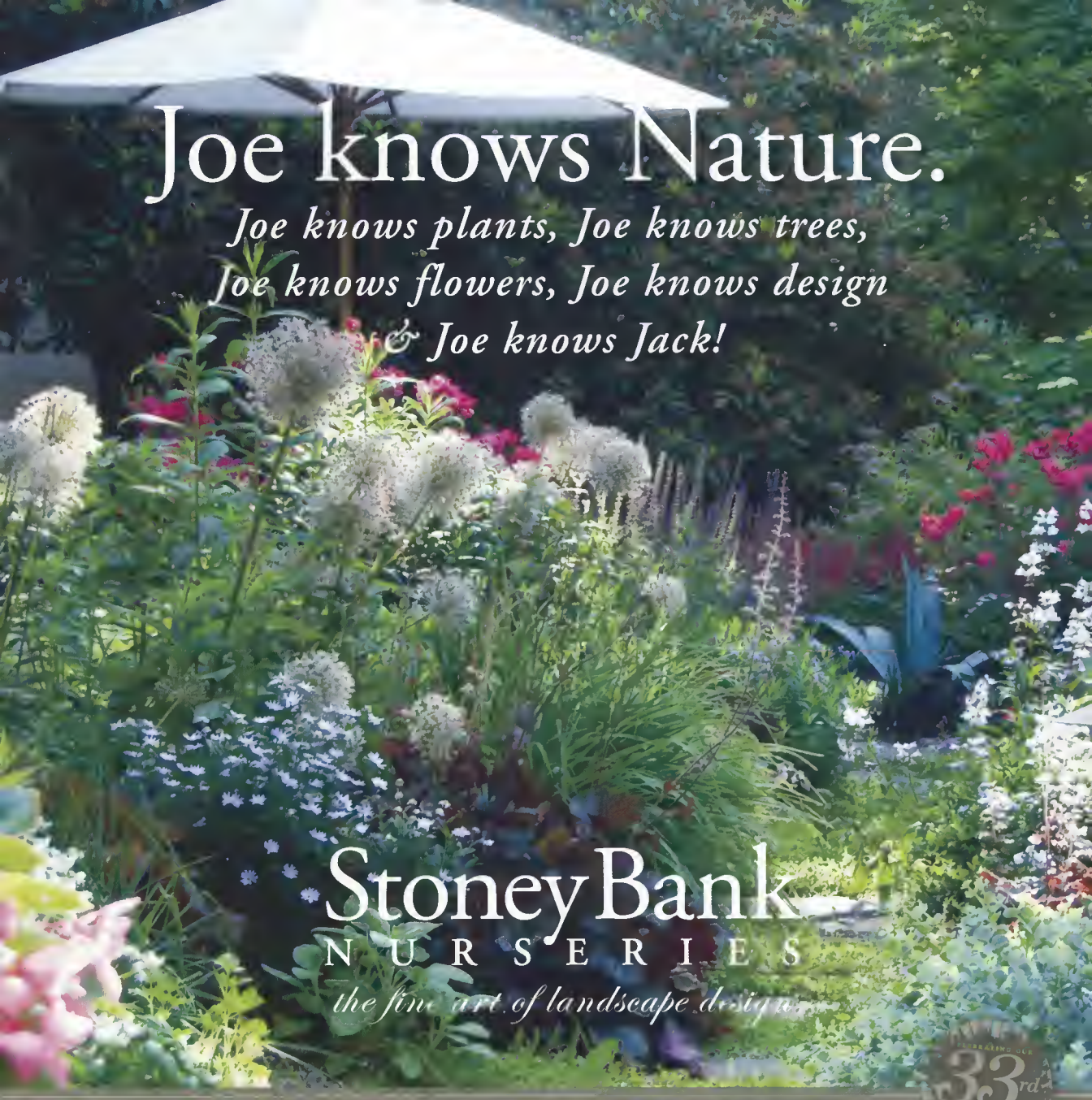
Together with his late wife, Charlotte, Alan was recognized with a PHS Certificate of Merit in 1994. When asked about his years as a volunteer, he uses adjectives like *enriching*, *rewarding*, and *fulfilling*.

Alan deeply understands the crucial role volunteers play in the work of PHS, which is why he's been so generous with his time.

He also reaffirms that securing PHS's future is a task for today's donors, which is why gift bequests are so important. To the point, he simply says, "The organization *must* go on. Everyone grows at PHS, and it's one of the few nonprofits that combine people from all walks of life. And that's amazing in this day and age."

As for the lifelong friendships he's made through the years, Alan says wryly, "Gardeners are generous people and, more importantly, plants aren't political. I can honestly say that the friends I've made through PHS have helped shape my life. And that's one of the greatest gifts PHS has given to me."

A variety of planned giving vehicles can be very beneficial to donors, including bequest intentions, Charitable Gift Annuities, and Trusts. To learn about making a planned gift to PHS, please contact Kate Wilhelm, senior vice president, at 215-988-8883, or visit *PHSonline.org* and click on "Support PHS" at the top.



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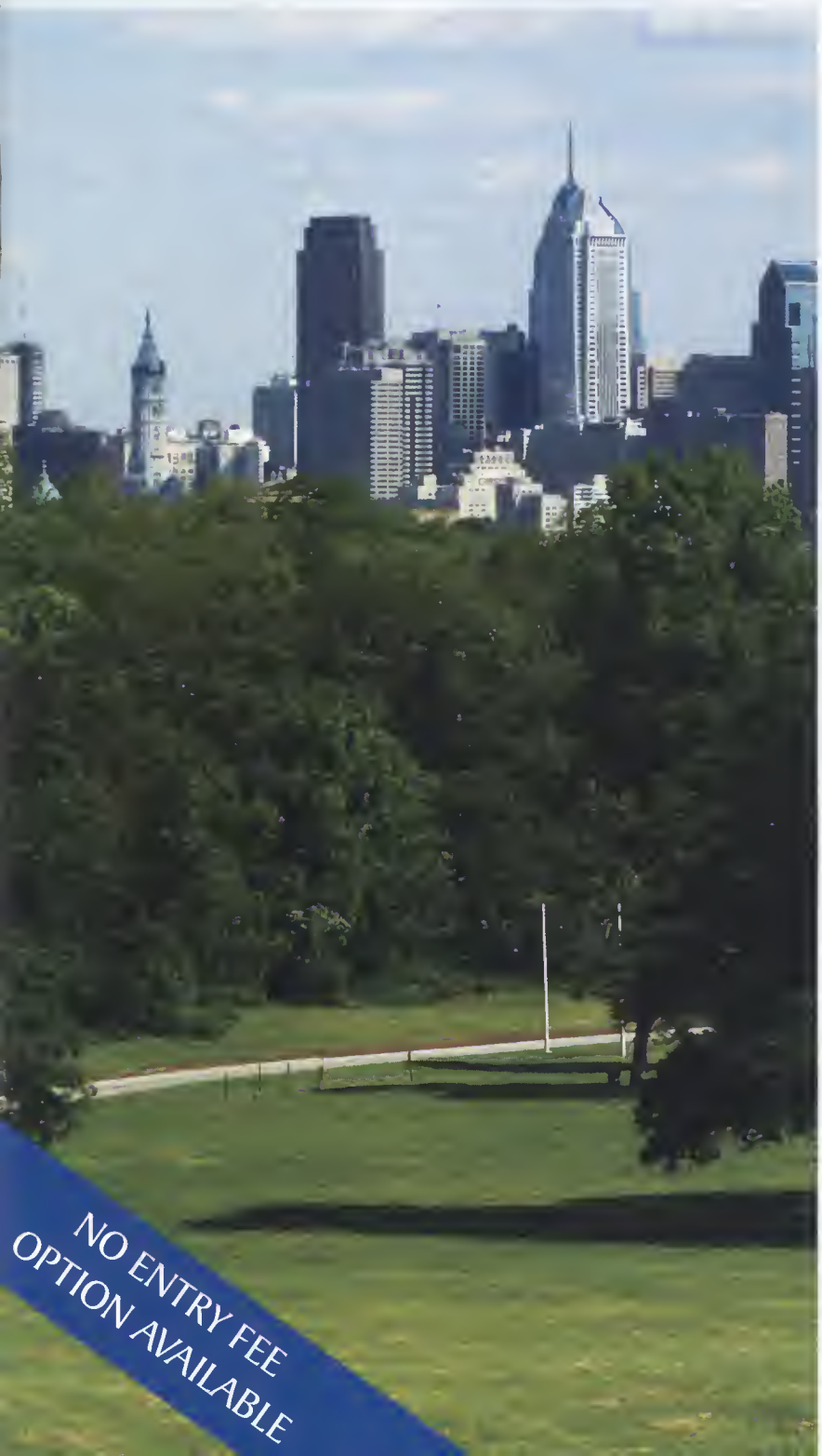
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The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society motivates people to improve the quality of life and create a sense of community through horticulture.

Cover photo by Rob Cardillo
Landscape design by Gasper Landscape

an ideal place



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A NEW LOOK



You may have noticed that *Green Scene* is sporting a snazzy new look these days. To mark the magazine's 40th anniversary (not to mention the 185th of PHS), we've decided to give it a complete overhaul, both in design and content. We're making it more contemporary while also maintaining our focus on gardening, design, the Flower Show, and more. New features include timely information about how to best use your PHS membership, as well as tips on fun things for gardeners to do in the region and while traveling.

In this issue, the accent is on outdoor living, art, décor, and all things design-oriented. In our quest for the latest and greatest new plants, we often overlook the overall "composition" of our outdoor spaces. Indeed, many professional garden designers break down the home landscape into a series of vignettes, each providing a unique, compelling picture. The solution to a design situation can be as basic as finding an antique fixture or "found object" and doing something creative with it.

In another story, we focus entirely on the art of sitting. We all like to sit outdoors, but on what? It's a far more personal decision than most of us realize. Do you want something hard and classical, like a timeless Luytens bench or a wrought-iron chair? Or a soft and inviting seat with pillows and cushions? You could split the difference with a classic Adirondack chair. In this issue, you will find ideas for your own outdoor space where you relax with family or entertain friends. Or, if you're like me, just sneak off alone to read a good book.

The concept of outdoor lifestyle becomes all the more relevant when you consider that Philadelphia offers a good nine months of pleasant weather per year. Of course, we have a long warm season, but people are also active in the cooler months, as revealed in everything from the exercise boom to the rise of cozy outdoor fireplaces and audio-visual installations (yes, people are now watching TV and movies outside, via both tablets and flat-screens). And remember that a new outdoor room, like a patio, is substantially more affordable than an addition on your house.

Wrapped in with all this is news on the latest gardening trends and ideas, all of which will help inform your gardening. Remember, the garden doesn't necessarily stop at your back door. There are many ways to bring horticulture inside, and we'll be exploring that in the months to come. Now it's up to you: tell us what you think of our new look and content. Connect with PHS on Facebook and Twitter and share your thoughts. We'd love to hear from you.

Pete Prown, Editor
greenscene@earthlink.net

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Editor
Pete Prown

Senior Editor
Jane Carroll

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Chair
John K. Ball

President
Drew 8echer

Vice President, Programs
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July 14 Chimney Swifts on Farm Hill
August 11 Sunset from the Train Station

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For more information call 800.448.3883 or visit **winterthur.org**.

† Included with admission. ‡ Members free.

Winterthur is nestled in Delaware's beautiful Brandywine Valley on Route 52, between I-95 and Route 1.



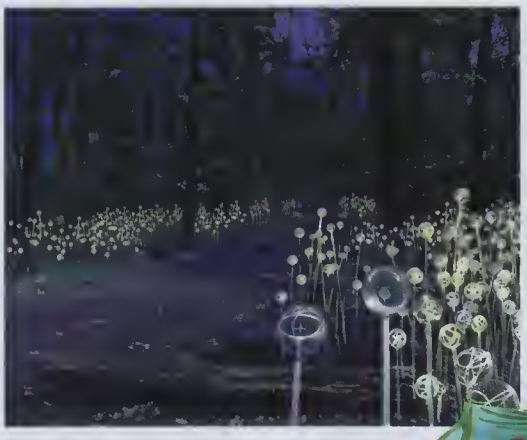
As our lives become increasingly bound to technology, it becomes even more important to savor outdoor spaces and the sense of balance they can provide. Closer to home, this makes our own landscapes, patios, lawns, and vistas even more precious, as they give us a place to escape from the noise around us. In essence, that's what this issue of *Green Scene* is all about—reflecting on those treasured spaces where we can pause and take a deep, reaffirming breath.

BREATHE



Photo by R. b Cardillo | Land... by Gale Nurseries

Light Artist Bruce Munro at Longwood Gardens



Longwood Gardens has commissioned UK light artist Bruce Munro to present the exhibition *Light: Installations.* This is Munro's first garden installation in the United States and will showcase never-before-seen views of Longwood at night. *Light* will feature seven large-scale outdoor installations and two installations within Longwood's four-acre Conservatory, among other sites.

"Longwood Gardens is thrilled to host Bruce Munro's first large-scale exhibition in the U.S.," says director Paul Redman. "His imaginative works will enchant and amaze all with their beauty and ingenuity."

This exhibition runs June 9 through September 29. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at *longwoodgardens.org.*

Shop Online with PHS!



Launched during the Flower Show, our online retail outlet, *ShopPHS.org,* is up and running. Shop now for great gifts, such as PHS sterling leaf jewelry by Lagos or the 2012 Flower Show scarf. You'll also find gardening gear and PHS-logo merchandise, publications, and more.

ROLLING ON THE RIVER



Ground has been broken on Avram Hornik's riverfront beer garden in Philadelphia, Morgan's Pier. The open-air seasonal venue adjacent to the Benjamin Franklin Bridge will feature live music, dancing and food reminiscent of a backyard picnic or barbecue. Groundswell Design Group, whose work you may have seen at the Philadelphia Flower Show, is working on the project. The firm is bringing in large linden trees, repurposed and reclaimed elements, and lighting to make for a welcoming and relaxing Delaware riverfront spot.

Handmade Craftsmanship at Meadowbrook Farm

Created by artisan Gregg Moore of Heirloom Home and Studio, these black terra cotta containers have the look and patina of an antique English pot, thanks to a hand-rubbed finish. They're decorated with a single kale leaf, which Gregg spotted in Meadowbrook Farm's vegetable garden. Says the artist, "Their kale was growing so beautifully that I knew it could be a symbolic link between Heirloom and Meadowbrook." Gregg's beautiful pots are available only at Meadowbrook Farm or online at *ShopPHS.org.*



The Beauty of Birds' Nests



Saturday, July 28, 1-3 pm at Meadowbrook Farm

Hail the many wonders of birds' nests! Nests provide eggs and chicks with structural support, a suitable microclimate, and protection from predators and the elements. Take a peek into the world of bird nesting in this engaging session. The first half chronicles a pair of wood thrushes as they raise their two chicks, and the second half is a fun guessing game about types of nests and the materials birds use to build them. Dress for the weather.

Fee: $25 members, $30 non-members
Registration: *pennhort.net/eventregistration* or 215-988-8872

PHS TRIP: Gardens of South India

January 11-25, 2013

Join PHS in January 2013 for a fascinating exploration of the flora and gardens of South India. Our 15-day, 14-night trip will showcase the early role of gardens and plants in medicinal, religious, culinary, commercial, and leisure activities in India. It will also illustrate how these roles and activities evolved in the colonial era and after independence from Britain.

We will visit Mughal-style terrace gardens; British-style botanical gardens; and lively flower, vegetable, and spice markets. Our itinerary also includes some of South India's most memorable sites, such as the Amba Vilas Palace in Mysore, the serene backwaters of Kerala, and the Portuguese- and Dutch-influenced town of Kochi.

For more information, please contact Chela Kleiber at *ckleiber@pennhart.org* or 215-988-8775.





Floral Fantasies with Damien Koh

October 3-5 at Longwood Gardens









PHS and Longwood Gardens present "Inspiring Floral Artistry—A Hallmark of Spectacular Design." Special guest Damien Koh will lead presentations for floral designers of all skill levels. Damien is an internationally acclaimed, highly sought-after floral artist based in Singapore. He is a member of AIFD and Professional Floral Communicators International. Damien has toured more than 30 cities worldwide as a lecturer, exhibitor, judge, and designer.

Wednesday, October 3: Evening demanstratian and receptian

Thursday, October 4: Twa sessians for beginner and intermediate arrangers

Friday, October 5: Twa workshops far experienced ar prafessional arrangers

Far informatian, call 215-988-8897 ar email *fnarducci@pennhart.org*.

VIENNA

Old-world opulence meets light-filled greenhouse at Restaurant Hansen, an eatery located in the basement of Vienna's stock exchange building. What was once the mecca of high-powered finance is today the mecca of palate-pleasing haute cuisine. For breakfast, try the truffled scrambled eggs with smoked salmon and chervil crème fraiche or, for dinner, creamed sliced fillet of Waldviertel beef with mango, pak-choi, and rice.

Wipplingerstrasse 34, Vienna, ***hansen.co.at***

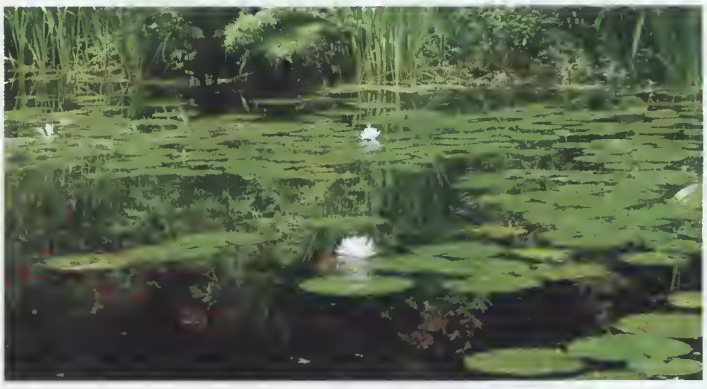
In the same building as Hansen, indulge your gardening whims at Lederleitner. There, you can peruse a rich selection of garden furniture, accessories, books, cut flowers, and potted plants. New trends in floral and garden culture can be found here, as well as home furnishings. There are eight Lederleitner locations throughout Austria, including Salzburg and Graz.

Schottenring 16, Vienna, ***lederleitner.at***

MASSACHUSETTS

If you're headed to northern New England or Cape Cod this summer, stop off at Garden in the Woods, the New England Wild Flower Society's renowned botanic garden. Says executive Debbi Edelstein, "You'll discover an unrivaled collection of both rare and common native plants offering a changing tapestry of flowers and foliage through the spring, summer, and fall seasons." Better yet, there's free admission for PHS members when you display your membetship card. Closed on Mondays.

Framingham, MA, *Newfs.org* or 508-877-7630



NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

Want to make your outdoor space more eclectic and exciting? Stop by Cottage and Garden for weathered European bistro sets that add old-style flair to your terrace, or one-of-a-kind statuary of fanciful creatures for your garden menagerie. Classic Guy Wolff pottery collectibles, unusual plant containers, unique faux bois furniture, accessories and antique garden tools will have you gardening in style. They also have lush, elegant topiaries to bring some green into your garden and home.

9 Bridge Street, 401-848-8477, cottageandgardennewport.com

While you're in Newport, check out The Farmer's Daughter for a unique atray of unusual plants and shrubs to surprise and delight your senses. You'll be charmed by the colors and scents of plants from all seasons, including heavenly summettime scents of herbs and hanging baskets cascading with colot. Stroll through the display gardens and find inspiration in the professionally designed landscapes.

716 Mooresfield Road, 401-792-1340, *thefarmersdaughterri.com*



OHIO

BY JANE G. PEPPER

My fascination with The Chef's Garden started when I asked Chef Jason Belcov where he found the baby vegetables we had just consumed. A month later, I visited this bustling 70-acre vegetable-growing operation near the shores of Lake Erie, where the Jones family and 140 employees ship their tasty treats to restaurants all over the United States, Mexico, Canada and Hong Kong.

In summer, chefs can choose from 600 vegetable varieties, herbs, and edible flowers, including 70 varieties of tomatoes and 30 types of eggplant. In April, I found radishes and carrots of all hues, petite leeks, and spinach, just to mention a sampling, growing in hoops greenhouses. The Chef's Garden's 80-plus micro green offerings include standard fare such as arugula, carrot tops, and amaranth. After a wonderful tasting, my new favorites were gold pea tendrils, tangy watercress blooms, and Chinese toon.

The Chef's Garden operation includes the Culinary Vegetable Institute, an educational center for chefs that also hosts public dinners, cooking classes, and wine tastings, and Veggie U, which provides Earth to Table classroom kits for fourth graders. Their newest endeavors are a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) farm and a year-round shipping service to homeowners.

For more information on The Chef's Garden, visit *chefs-garden.com*.



GARDEN HISTORIAN

Charles A. Birnbaum

BY DENISE COWIE



Photo by Charles Birnbaum

The round garden at Mt. Cuba

AS FOUNDER

and president of the Cultural Landscape Foundation, Charles A. Birnbaum is concerned not only with the design of new landscapes, but with the preservation and documentation of old ones.

What should Delaware Valley homeowners do if they acquire an older home and suspect the garden may originally have been planned by a notable designer of the past? That's not out of the question in a region where many renowned landscape architects have worked, including the Olmsted Brothers, Beatrix Farrand, and Marian Coffin. It was Coffin who designed gardens for several regional estates, including Gibraltar, where the gardens have been restored in recent years, and the Round Garden at Mt. Cuba in Delaware, where Thomas Sears designed the formal gardens.

"Thomas Sears did a lot of work in Philadelphia, but how many survive today? We don't know," says Birnbaum. Or there's George E. Patton, who worked on many of Philadelphia's best-loved parks and public spaces, including the courtyard at the Betsy Ross House. "He designed a lot of gardens in and around Philadelphia, private gardens that could still be in existence," Birnbaum says.

To help raise public awareness of the nation's designed landscape heritage, Birnbaum and his associates at the Cultural Landscape Foundation launched "What's Out There" (*tclf.org/landscapes*), an online database that spans more than two centuries of landscape design and is searchable by landscape name, locale, designer, type, and style.

Of course, it's difficult to document individual private gardens unless you know the designer's name. And many of the region's old gardens were created by talented amateurs. "There's probably a large number of people who have gardens that were not designed by a national master," Birnbaum says. "But that doesn't diminish them."



A light beckons

Simple and partner Michael Bowell use a combination of sculpture, foun objects, and excellent plants to highlight this outdoor pergola an sitting area. Cleverly deployed lights are merely icing on the cake.



SURROUNDED BY ART

Visitors to this fanciful property in Malvern, PA, could be forgiven for wondering where the house ends and the garden begins.

STORY BY DENISE COWIE • PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROB CARDILLO

Not only is the house owned by Michael Bowell and his partner, Simple, hugged by five acres of lush gardens, but the back of the living quarters morphs into a two-story greenhouse. And as visitors walk out the front door, they almost immediately step into another "house," a fantasy creation of rooms framed out in wood outlined in tiny lights, but without roof or walls, and decorated with myriad lights, ponds, and plants both real and wrought in metal.

From this open-air courtyard, paths punctuated by a gallery's worth of playful art entice visitors out into the greater garden, meandering past ponds and bamboo thickets, tropical plants and hardy perennials, a vegetable garden, and even a chicken coop. It's a perfect blend of art and garden. "It looks like somebody planted a house seed" that just grew up among the plants, says Marcelle Pick of Devon, president of the Violette de Mazia Foundation and a longtime friend of Bowell's.

On a balmy evening, that fairytale notion is emphasized as the stars overhead compete with the neon twinkle of numerous moons, stars, and squiggles carved into metal tubes of lighting designed by Simple (yes, that's his full legal name).

"The garden is ever evolving, and it's quirky," says Bowell, who owns Create a Scene Inc., his aptly named garden-design-and-installation business. "For me, it kind of follows three childhood stories, The Wizard of Oz, Alice in Wonderland, and Peter and the Wolf, since near the house it's safer, more

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A cozy, glowing wonderland

Looking closer, you'd see a superb use of tropical annuals and foliage to create the sense of a clearing in the jungle. Among the plant choices are impatiens, orchids, dahlia, ginger, begonias, and caladium. Lesson learned: don't be afraid to mix your potted houseplants in with garden plants.



Light & Movement

Found objects frequently become *objets d'art* in this garden. Here, part of an old chandelier has undergone a metamorphosis and emerged as the top of a fountain. The painted piece, plumbed to emit a jet of water, sits atop a tall pot in the outdoor "folly."



A quiet place to think

This planter, in the shape of a classical head, is mottled with lichens after many seasons out in the elements. Seating for contemplative visitors is scattered throughout the garden.



structured, but the farther away you get, the more crazy, wild, and out-there it becomes."

A plethora of super-sized plants contribute to what Bowell describes as the "voluptuous plantings." An avid orchid grower in the greenhouse for many years, he also was among the first plantsmen in the Philadelphia area to use tropical plants for dramatic impact in outdoor gardens.

"Almost anything that is flowering or has gigantic foliage" might be utilized in the display area, he says, "including alocasias, bananas, cannas, and tons of flowering things such as agapanthus, crinum lilies, lantanas, and gingers."

Numerous hardy plants support the tropical theme. Cut-leaf sumac and giant stands of oakleaf hydrangeas, 20 feet across, compete for attention with tall stalks of Joe Pye weed and huge leaves of gunnera and ligularia, or the knobby knees of bald cypress and extravagant lotus in the larger ponds. Interspersed with all these are scores of perennials, as well as entire miniature landscapes in stone troughs.

And then there's the art. Although eccentric art has long been a part of the garden, these days it's largely the domain of Simple, who delights in bringing inventive and surprising touches to the garden.

"He is a skilled craftsman and also an excellent gardener, so he can combine those two traits in garden art quite wonderfully," says R. William Thomas, executive director of Chanticleer, the pleasure garden in Wayne. In 2006, when Chanticleer hosted a major dinner for the national Garden Writers Association conference, Thomas commissioned Simple to craft neon sculptures to light the way in the darkened garden, to magical effect.

More recently, back in Malvern, Simple built that open-air courtyard, which one friend dubbed "Simple's Folly," and

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SITTING PRETTY



You've planted your flowers, mowed the grass, and walked the dog. Now it's time to sit back and relax in your garden paradise. You'll need easy-living, maintenance-free furniture to complete your outdoor haven. Durability, comfort, and lifestyle needs are the primary considerations.

STORY BY LAURA BRANDT • PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROB CARDILLO



Landscape by Gasper Landscape Designer, Inc.

TAKE A SEAT



Made of forged steel, Camille Leavitt's **hand-forged three-legged chair** is very comfortable. It has a simple, elegant design, accented with a whimsical flower. Garden Accents now offers this artistic seating.

Faux Bois is a type of naturalistic-looking outdoor furniture that imitates wood using concrete and other materials over a metal frame. The concrete is sculpted to look like tree branches in this unique chair. This rustic style is organic and moves with ease either outdoors or inside.



A twist on traditional Windsor chairs, these chairs by Three Cast Coins are made from cast aluminum and are available in a variety of colors and finishes.
(Photo by Three Cast Coins)





John Parker's latest creation is a **"Roman" bench** that is available with or without cushions designed by his wife, a textile artist. While black, white, and green wrought iron are the most requested colors, Parker's custom designs are available in any color.

Designed by Jaap Sterk, this **stylish bench** and table are made of cast concrete.
(Photo by Rob Cardillo)









Landscape designs that pop (re) by Gardner Landscape (gardner.net)





If Dorothy were shopping for outdoor furnitute in Emerald City she might exclaim, "Wicker and aluminum and plastic—*oh my*! Tangerine, kiwi, and buttercup—*oh my*!" Choosing from the many durable, high-tech materials and the wide world of colors available today can be confounding. Following are some of the most popular low-maintenance choices tecommended by the design expetts we talked to.

Teak is ideal for outdoor furniture since its natural oils make it resistant to moisture, mildew, sun, insects, and the elements. Teak's natural golden-brown color weathers to a lovely silvery gray over time. Eco-conscious furnitute manufacturers use sustainably grown teak certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). Look for the FSC logo on teak and other FSC-certified woods such as eucalyptus, shorea, and cedar.

All-weather wicker resembles natural wicker, but plastic resin makes it weather-resistant and easier to clean. High-density polyethylene fibers are hand woven onto powder-coated, rust-free aluminum frames. Typically, reputable manufacturers guarantee resin wicker against peeling, cracking, and fading.

Sttong, rustproof, and lightweight, cast aluminum chairs are suitable poolside, tableside, or on the porch. Durable powder-coated aluminum frames



Landscape by Chester Landscaping, Inc.

are available in a variety of finishes and modern or traditional styles. If you prefer heavier metal furniture, traditional wrought iron is available with durable coatings to help protect against rusting.

Today's recycled plastic furniture is boldly going where no plastic furniture has gone before, with both sophisticated and casual styles. You'll find classic Adirondack chairs as well as Chippendale and Mission-style furniture in traditional colors, vibrant colors, or wood tones that are fade resistant. Made with poly lumber, mainly from recycled milk jugs, the material is mold, mildew, and UV-ray resistant. According to *rainforestrelief.org*, poly lumber is the preferable eco-friendly material for outdoor furniture.

Purpose. "How are you going to use your space?" asks Linda Moran of The Hill Company, located in Chestnut Hill and Worcester, Pa.. "Are you going to dine outside, relax, or do both? Some people don't like to eat outside—they buy a table and chairs but they don't use it that way. With a conversation-height table [about two feet high] and comfortable chairs, you can have both." Also, look for "chat groups," "deep seating," and modular sectionals for comfortable groupings.

Color. "Your outdoor space shouldn't look exactly like the interior," says Moran. "This is your chance to have some fun. Choose somewhat brighter colors than you'd use indoors. Consider your favorite colors and the colors of your house."

Budget. Good furniture is an investment. "Consider buying a portion of the furniture this year and some next year," says Moran. "It's better to get high quality furniture that lasts than

continued on page 36

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Landscape Tips From the Flower Show

Quick Ideas for Your Home Landscape

STORY BY JANE CARROLL



Photo Courtesy of Ledden Palimeno

LIGHT

Joe Palimeno of Ledden Palimeno in Sewell, NJ, loves light in the garden. He says, "Lighting can extend the use of your garden into the evening, which many people forget." He particularly likes lighting with a hidden source, such as "moonlighting," where you hang lights in the higher branches of a tree, so that light filters down through the foliage and creates a dappled effect. "It's a nice, subtle way to light a patio," Joe says.

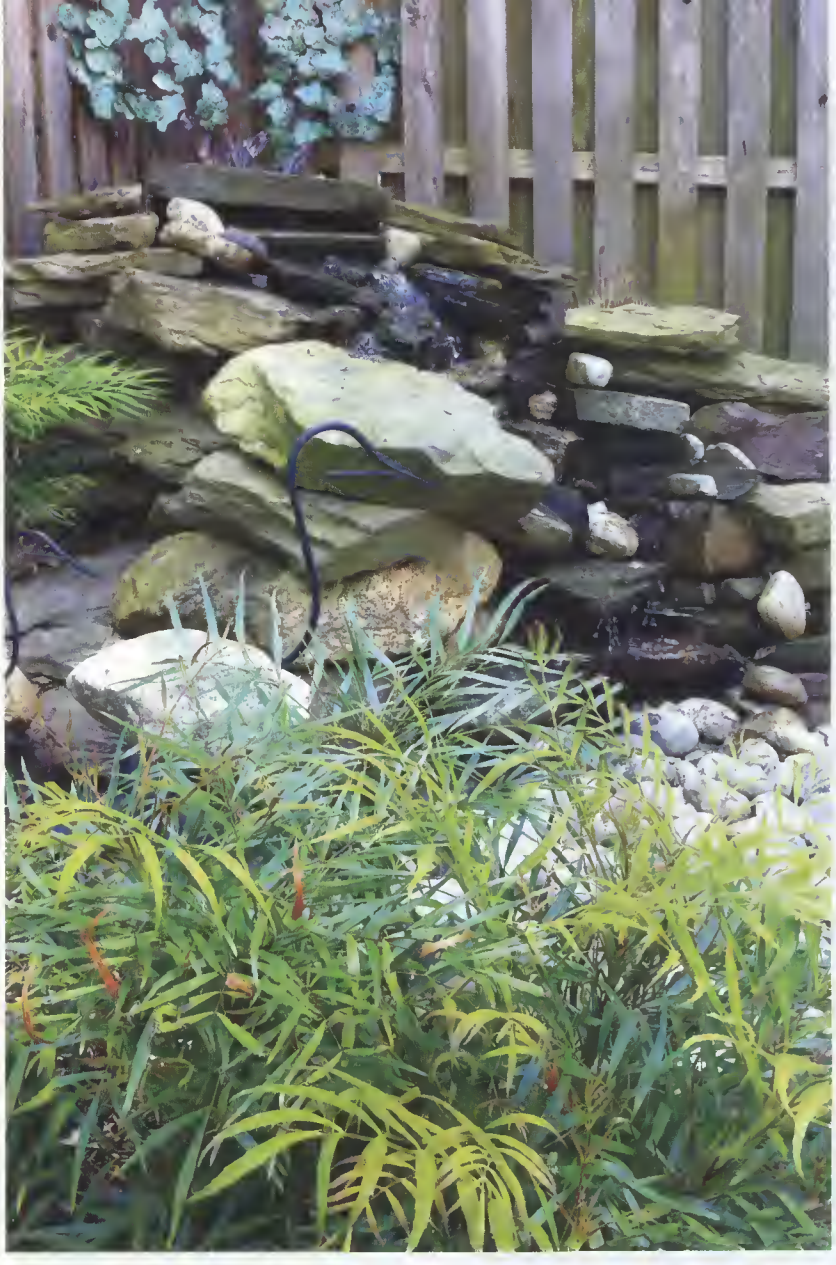
In fact, Joe recommends anything that can extend the use of the garden, even into chillier weather, such as fire pits and fireplaces. "You can install beautiful, custom fireplaces that run on a gas line for convenience, but EP Henry also sells build-it-yourself kits for outdoor fire pits," he says. "They come on a palette with stackable blocks, a poker, fire screen, and recycled copper bowl. It's an easy addition to your existing patio. I particularly like when outdoor stonework and fireplaces pick up on the architecture of house."

COMPOSTION

Containers add color to the garden, such as the subtle cobalt-blue ceramic piece in this photo. The combination of the pot, stonework, and the harmonious array of delphiniums; achillea, foxglove, and roses is dazzling here, especially when contrasted with the stone and the foliage of the dark-maroon maple tree.

Joe Palimeno recommends putting tropicals in containers to jazz up the garden: "Tender tropical plants and bulbs can last until first frost, but you can also bring the pots inside to winter over. For plant choices, I like Areca palms, which provide graceful, feathery movements in the breeze, as well as bird of paradise foliage and sago palm, which is a fantastic plant with long, round needles and is easy to care for. To fill out the pots, mix in creeping Jenny, vinca, or simply mass succulents in the pot to make the planting look more lush."

Photos this page Courtesy of Hunter Hayes





POTS

Everyone should plant containers, since they're so easy to assemble and the results can be stunning. Lauren Hilburn says, "I like to mix herbs and ornamental flowers together for impact. Some of my favorites include sage, because it stays evergreen and comes back, basil because it's everyone's favorite, lemon thyme, small veggies, and cherry tomatoes. For color, I enjoy nasturtiums, which are edible and fun for kids. And don't forget small fruit trees in pots, which can be brought indoors in the fall."

WATER ELEMENTS

Home ponds and waterfalls are fun projects that can often be completed in one weekend. Lauren Hilburn of Hunter Hayes Landscape Design explains, "In the project pictured here, we created a dry stack of stones that tapers narrower toward the top. You can also build it into a small hillside. This one was about 2 to 3 feet wide and 18 inches deep.

Dig a hole as if you were creating a pond and line it with plastic. At the bottom, put a circulating underwater pump in a plastic milk crate or basin and fill it with gravel, so that it's still easy to get to if it needs attention. Run plastic tubing from the pump up and behind the stone wall, with the outflow hidden at the top. You can also surround the waterfall with your favorite flowers, grasses, and bulbs, or put water plants within the pool itself."

RESOURCES

ephenry.com

hayeshorticulture.com
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leddenpalimeno.com
856-468-1700

Photo Courtesy of Ledden Palimeno

Don't Forget the FABRIC

Easy-care durable fabric in many patterns, colors, and textures covers outdoor pillows, seat cushions, and upholstery. The tough, yet soft, acrylic fiber resists sunlight and mildew, while the protective coating repels soil and stains. Today's polyester foam seat cushions drain and dry quickly.

Take your pick of fabric colors from *Aura Honey* to *Zenith Chestnut*. "We've seen a trend of brightly colored pillows accenting garden seating," says Madeline Duffy, manager of Garden Accents, located in West Conshohocken. "If you are using bright colors, make sure to complement or contrast with the surrounding plant material."

"Outdoor furnishings follow color trends just like indoor furnishings and clothing," adds Linda Moran of The Hill Company. "We are seeing deep colors such as yellows, oranges, and turquoise in fabrics. Vivid fabrics provide a dramatic contrast to contemporary white frames. Antique and textured furniture finishes are popular. Some finishes even look like weathered teak or driftwood."

—Laura Brandt



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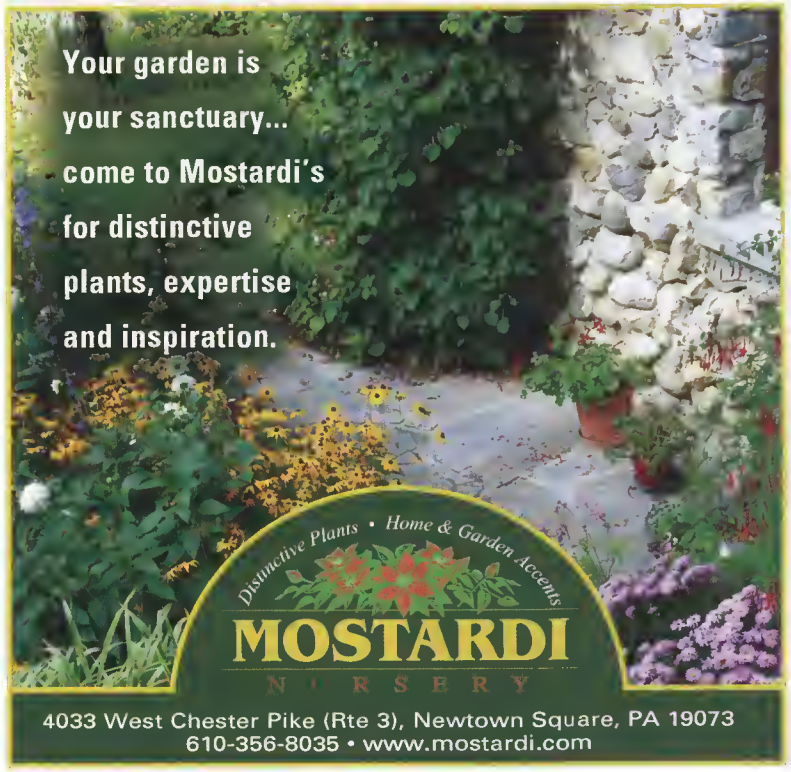
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continued from page 28

to buy a set that falls apart in a few years. Whatever you select, compare warranties as well as prices."

Outdoor furniture manufacturers are lending new twists to classic styles by offering an array of colors and new materials. "Designers have been taking retro designs and classic traditional pieces and giving them an updated look in bright, popular colors," says Duffy. For example, this spring, Georgia-based Three Coins Cast introduced a classic Windsor chair in lightweight cast aluminum available in ten colors. George Washington might be amazed to see his favorite chair in candy apple red, lime green, and fuchsia.

"We strive for the unexpected in cast aluminum," says Susie Powell, owner of Three Coins Cast. "We've added bright, bold color finishes to very traditional furniture. You can use these chairs indoors or outdoors paired with a wooden farmers table or placed in the garden for a resting spot."

Perennially popular bistro sets are everywhere. If you want to sip your morning coffee at your own backyard French café, these are just the thing. Pottstown-based manufacturer Alfresco Home offers a twist on Parisian bistro sets with colorful blood orange, green apple, blue Hawaiian, and cocoa bean finishes. In addition, Glen Mills-based Terrain at Styer's offers a twist ... literally. Terrain designers created colorful steel bistro "scroll side chairs" featuring French rounded scrollwork.

Make the most of your leisure time outdoors this summer and relax comfortably with durable, low-maintenance seating. You'll be sitting pretty all season!

RESOURCES

camilleleavitt.com
hill-company.com
gardenaccents.com
teak.com
thepaintedgardeninc.com

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adorned it with a dizzying array of neon sculptures. He also added a pond in which upside-down aquariums planted with green roofs rise above the water's surface, allowing colorful fish and turtles to swim above the pond.

One big pond, built to handle stormwater runoff, is flanked by a bald cypress and two dawn redwoods, and across it Simple has built a living bridge of cypress trees trained onto horizontal trellises of rebar and reinforcing wire. Even more eye-catching—especially for drivers on the Pennsylvania Turnpike, which runs past the property—is his Man of Steel, a neon-outlined figure of a dancing man that is suspended in a tree.

But the most dramatic sculptures may be the towering figures made from dried grasses. Two creatures stand at the entrance to a path "like something out of the Blair Witch Project," one visitor said, while another, about 12 feet tall and wired as a fountain, hangs out by a pond and sprays water at the unwary. Similar grass people by Simple have done stints at the United States Botanic Garden in Washington, DC, at Tyler Arboretum near Media, and at a garden in California.

"The kids love them," Simple says. "It's a way to recycle old grass and other stuff. But really, I hope to get kids back into the garden again to play."

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THIS PAGE: Narrow-neck vase containing birch, roses, heuchera, and amaranthus. **INSET:** A close-up photo shows the birch structure. Layers of birch bark are separated by birch twigs, and small pieces of birch are glued together in folds. Two slender birch branches are attached to the bark and inserted into the vase, holding the structure securely above the vase.

Arranging Flowers Outdoors

BY JANE GODSHALK, AIFD

A garden setting, with dappled shade and flickering rays of sunlight, can provide the perfect background for floral designs. Trees, shrubs, wood, and stone also give wonderful contrasts to floral materials. Let's explore.

◀ A Shady Ledge

A small-neck vase with a birch structure holds roses, amaranthus, and heuchera. A vase with a small opening can hold only a few flower stems, so creating an arrangement with impact can be a challenge.

Here, six strips of birch bark are glued together, glued to small branches, and inserted into the vase. Only a few flowers are needed for the design, and two taller birch branches are added to give height and repeat the idea of the birch structure.

▼ Full sun and green grass

Colors look brighter in full sun, and green grass makes a luxurious background for branches and flowers. Branches laid over a tall black vase hold strong hues of purple, red, and orange, which are diffused by green leaves and green flowers. The branches cross and splay in different directions and mirror the movement of the grass below.



Photographs left & above by Jeanine Benning



Photograph by Rob Cardillo

ABOVE: Branches and flowers straddle a tall black vase. Hydrangea, roses, tulips, dog eye euphorbia, hosta leaf, and a spray of clematis vine wind through branches. The branches were found on a neighborhood walk and are bound together by nature, making a beautiful but fragile structure.

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The Artful Seed Pack

BY LAURA BRANDT

Hudson Valley Seed Library

The Hudson Valley Seed Library has taken seed packs to new heights. Its "art packs" of seeds are designed by artists who work in a variety of media. This year, the company is offering 24 new varieties, bringing the total to 63. The seed inventory is composed primarily of seeds grown on the Hudson Valley farm in Accord, New York. All of these seeds are grown without synthetic pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers.

Hudson Valley's art packs are so beautiful that followers collect the packs and artists have lined up to design them. Examples include *Kaleidoscope Carrots*, *Velvet Queen Sunflower*, and *State Fair Zinnia*. Artists use watercolor, oils, collage, pottery, sculpture, fiber art, and even encaustic (paint mixed with beeswax) when designing the packs.

Ken Greene, Hudson Valley Seed Library co-founder, says, "I wanted to reflect what's most important about the seeds—the diversity and the stories behind them. Rather than use photos, we commission artists to create unique designs. I'm always looking for artists to interpret new varieties that we have on the farm." Only about 20 designs were chosen out of two hundred entries for next year's art packs.

You may have noticed custom seed packs at this year's Philadelphia International Flower Show. The Hudson Valley Seed Library offered Hardy Hibiscus Mix (*Hibiscus moscheutos*) at the Hawaiian-themed show. This tropical-looking plant is native to our area. In fact, John Bartram was one of the earliest horticulturists to collect wild mallow seeds and hybridize them, says Greene.

The seed packs consist of four half-circle flaps around a square. "You unfold it like a flower to reveal the seeds inside—you can plant the seeds and then frame the artful seed pack," Greene says. "I like knowing that the seeds and art have found good homes."

For those who would like to try your hand at designing an art pack, watch for the call for art next March on the company's Facebook page. For news and information, sign up for Hudson Valley's e-newsletter on its website: *seedlibrary.org*.



ABOVE: An unfolded seed packet shows the artistic rendering.



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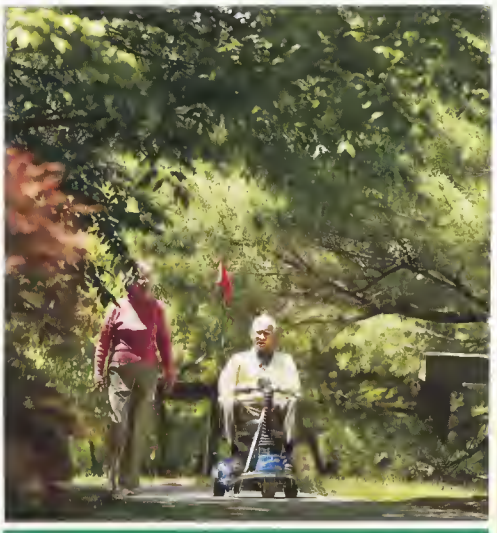


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THE FLAVORS OF AUTUMN

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There's nothing like picking a basket of homegrown vegetables in the fall. Some vegetables have better flavor and texture than if you grew them in the summer. So which fresh, flavorful vegetables make good candidates for the fall garden? Plant cold-hardy crops such as greens; root vegetables; and brassicas like cauliflower, kale, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, turnip, and kohlrabi. Just think of stews with fresh cabbage, tasty cauliflower au gratin, and kale sautéed with garlic and olive oil, and plan on harvesting some for your Thanksgiving feast.

If you're not familiar with kale, you will be pleasantly surprised by this attractive, green leafy vegetable, often dubbed a "superfood" by nutritionists. One of the most nutrient-dense vegetables on the planet, kale is high in Vitamins A, C, K, calcium, lutein, and iron. *The New York Times* has featured stories on the plant several times this year, and this

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Show tickets on sale August 1!
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PHS POP UP GARDEN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOM WEISHAAR



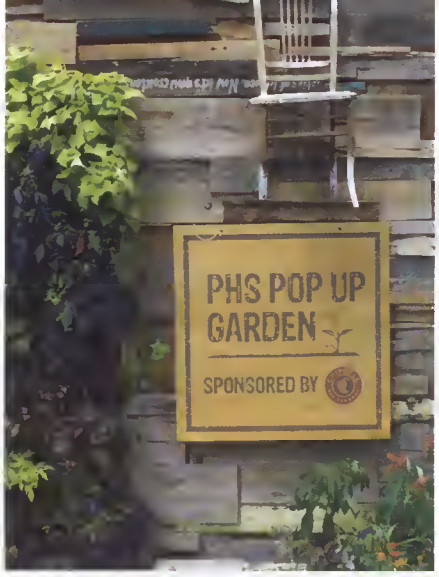
2012

The PHS Pop Up Garden continues to amaze both residents and visitors to Philadelphia. PHS staff transformed this vacant Center City lot near Rittenhouse Square into a temporary garden and gathering place in June, and it will remain open into October. If you haven't visited, come join the fun at 1905-15 Walnut Street.

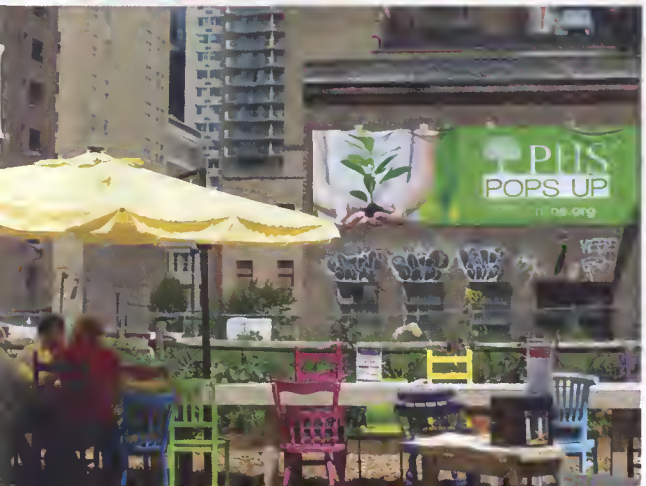
The Pop Up Garden highlights the PHS City Harvest program, which grows fresh produce through a network of community gardens and helps feed more than 1,000 families in need each week. With the garden's theme, "Bring everyone to the table," all are invited to get involved in the issue of food security and bring ideas, recipes, and gardening tips to the table—literally. The garden is sponsored by Chipotle Mexican Grill, Firstrust Bank, and Castleway Properties LLC.

Free programs for all ages are held at the garden every week. Children's activities, "Foodie Fridays," and Friday-evening farmers markets are just a few of the offerings. Visit *PHSonline.org* for details.











"Having the Pop Up Garden here will help ensure that there is access to healthy food. It helps us with our goal to be the greenest city in America."

Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter



Northern Manhattan Transformed

Monday, October 22, 8 am — 7 pm

This coach trip takes us to public spaces that have transformed neighborhoods in northern Manhattan. Led by celebrated public garden designer Lynden Miller and PHS President Drew Becher, the tour will feature two projects revitalized by the New York Restoration Project and two gardens designed by Lynden Miller. Sites include Swindler Cove Park, Target East Harlem Community Garden, Columbia University, and the Heather Garden in Fort Tryon Park. Contact Chela Kleiber at *ckleiber@pennhort.org* or 215-988-8775.

The Botany Behind Bluecoat Gin

On September 27, join Meredith Maciolek of Philadelphia Distilling and Bluecoat American Dry Gin for a class devoted to the botanicals found in their superb gin. While talking about the history of gin and how it is made, Meredith will compare dried botanicals to fresh and show how they work together to make gin the refreshing liquor that it is. Samples and snacks will be served. The event will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Gillespie Room, Wister Center at Swarthmore College. More info at 610-328-8025 or *scottarboretum.org*.



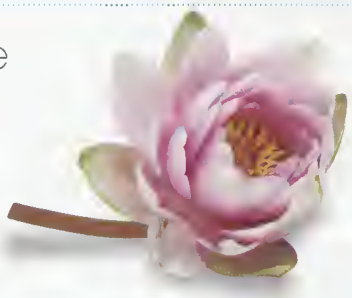
Mark Your Calendar! Fall Fun at Meadowbrook Farm

Saturday, October 6, 8am– 6pm (activities 10 am–4pm)

Don't miss a celebration of fall at Meadowbrook Farm in Abington, PA, offering fun for the whole family with refreshments and "pumpkin launching." You'll also find great shopping for beautiful mums and pansies, fall veggies, and other fabulous fall plants. Learn more at *meadowbrookfarm.org*.

Monet's Garden at the New York Botanical Garden

Tuesday, October 2, 8 am–7 pm



Join us for a day at the New York Botanical Garden, savoring the new Monet's Garden. This garden showcases a seasonally changing interpretation of the artist's gardens. We will tour the garden in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, which explores the legacy of Monet's idyllic garden in Giverny, transforming the conservatory into a floral masterpiece of diverse plants, bold colors, and dramatic design. After the tour, we will have lunch on our own. In the afternoon we'll take a self-guided tour in the LuEsther T. Mertz Library's Rondina Gallery, which includes two rare Monet paintings.

Limit: 35. Fee: $110 members, $120 non-members. Info: *pennhort.net/eventregistration* or 215-988-8869. *Fee includes coach bus (pick-up from PHS or the Horticulture Center in Fairmount Park), snacks and wine on the bus, and the tour and admission to the garden.*

GOURD-geous! A PHS Plant Exhibition

October 16–November 16, in the PHS McLean Library, 20th & Arch sts.

Join us for an exhibition of beautiful, strange, and wonderful gourds and pumpkins to celebrate the season. Big, small, yellow, orange, smooth, warty—gourds that will simply amaze you!



2012 PHS
Fall Garden Festival

Saturday, September 22
Philadelphia Navy Yard
10 am–5 pm
Free admission and parking

Start the fall season with a fantastic celebration! The PHS Fall Garden Festival will be held the first day of autumn at the Navy Yard, an exciting location with a mix of historic structures, post-industrial architecture, state-of-the art facilities, and riverfront views. The festival is all about family, and we'll have great activities for kids, shopping for adults, a preview of the 2013 Flower Show, and much more. Joining the festivities will be stars of "The Chew," a favorite foodie show on 6ABC.

All activities are free and open to the public, except for the Annual Plant Dividend, in which participation is an exclusive benefit for current PHS Members. (*Please note: Sustaining and 1827 Society members may enter the Plant Dividend Tent between 9 and 10 am.*) **For a complete list of activities, detailed directions, and more information, please visit the PHS website at *PHSonline.org*.**



PHeaSt
{feast} noun or verb;
10.19.12

SAVE THE DATE: *PHeaSt!* Please mark your calendars for Friday, October 19, when PHS will host an exciting event called *PHeaSt* at our warehouse at the Navy Yard in Philadelphia. The industrial-chic party setting will bring together the region's great chefs and fantastic local farmers, and all proceeds benefit PHS's City Harvest program. More info is available at *phsonline.org*. You won't want to miss this!



Make a Terrarium at City Planter and Meadowbrook Farm

Join **City Planter** staff for Friday-evening terrarium classes. This is a great way to spend some crafty time with your friends in Center City before you start your weekend. More info at 215-627-6169. 814 N. 4th St., Philadelphia, PA, *cityplanter.com*.

PHS's Meadowbrook Farm has a new do-it-yourself section of the gift shop. Here you can cozy up to a potting bench, find all the accessories you need, and start planting your own terrarium. Meadowbrook staff will help you along if questions arise. More info at 215-887-5900, 1633 Washington Lane, Abington Township, PA, *meadowbrookfarm.org*.

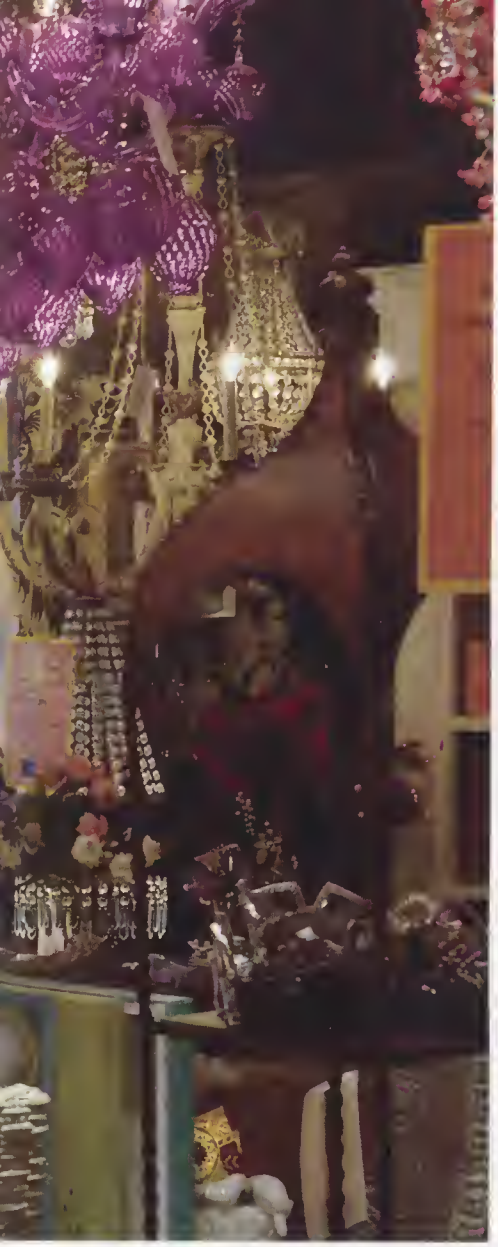


ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

If you walk down bustling King Street in Alexandria, you can't miss the fun silk flowers that cascade from the roof of Decorium. This delightfully eccentric boutique sells all types of décor for the home, as well as whimsical gifts for the people in your life. Its collection of chandeliers is also a popular showstopper.

Owners Jeff Albert and David Chenault also provide interior design services and have an online shop offering furniture and home items. Said one visitor of the store, "It feels like you've stepped into a funky tea party from *Alice in Wonderland*, filled with great finds I have never encountered before."

Decorium, 116 King Street, 703-739-4662, *decoriumhome.com*



SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA

The Arboretum at the University of California Santa Cruz boasts the largest collection of Australian and South African plants outside their native climates. You'll also find amazing plants and otherworldly flowers from California, New Zealand, and Chile, making the Arboretum a succulent lover's perfect day trip.

UCSC Arboretum
1156 High Street
831-427-2998, *arboretum.ucsc.edu*

BERLIN

If you're traveling to the German capital, you'll want to see well-known landmarks like the Brandenberg Gate and the Reichstag building. But if you want something offbeat, head toward the neighborhood of Lichtenberg to discover the wonderfully wacky Dong Xuan Center, a Vietnamese market.

Housed in a series of industrial warehouses, the market contains colorful kitsch from Southeast Asia, including flowers, baubles, electronics, and toys, as well as authentic north Vietnamese cuisine. The market is a direct by-product of the Cold War; during the 1970s, the former East German government brought in thousands of "guest workers" from North Vietnam, and many stayed in Germany after the end of the war.

So if you're looking for something completely different on your trip to Berlin, this grand marketplace will take the prize. It's considered one of the most authentic centers of Asian life, culture, and business in all of Europe.

Dong Xuan Center, Herzberg Road 128, Berlin-Lichtenberg





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Neil L. Rudenstine
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Pre-order by October 15 – $ 35

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GREEN Arranging with Sunflowers

BY J[illegible] E[illegible]
PHOTOGRAPHS BY [illegible]CMU[illegible]

What's in a name?
Helianthus annuus

Helianthus comes from the Greek (helios, sun + anthos, flower) and *annuus* is Latin for annual or recurring. The sunflower is an annual plant, native to the Americas, with large heads that follow the sun through the day, thus its name "Sunflower."

Extend your summer sunshine through the fall with sunflowers in your home. Sunflowers have enormous visual impact, and some "eco-friendly" mechanics will help brighten your home without negatively impacting the environment. Sunflowers are readily available from local sources; check for sustainable growing practices.

Sand and Branches. Heavy stems of sunflowers may be supported in a vase with a vertical willow structure. Branches are placed deep into a container filled with play sand and tied to create a vertical support. Stems of sunflowers are tied into the structure, creating an elevated focal area with the large blossoms at the top of the design. Cattails add height and lightness above the flowers.

Water the sand-filled container until sand feels damp, not wet.

After flowers have wilted, dispose of the sand by putting it in the compost bin or back into the garden soil.

Fun and fancy gifts from the shop at

PHS Meadowbrook Farm



1 Londonderry vintage desk clock
Iron and glass $35



2 Small Slingshot Magnifier
Acacia wood, hemp and glass (3x magnification) $15

3 Blue Botanical Infused Glass Birdbath
Food safe and makes a great serving piece $43.75





4 Dionis Weekend Gardener Skincare
A pumice scrub, hand cream, and cuticle salve using aloe, lemongrass, and Vitamin E, produced by a Warrington, PA, artist
$6 to $10

5 Ombre Scarves with Pom Pom Fringe
Beautifully colored cotton scarves
$13.75-$40



6 Aspen Bay Capri Blue Candles
Food-grade soy wax candle in hand-blown blue glass container
Tumbler $18, Jar $28



7 Wooden Garden Chair
Made from sustainable keruing wood, optimal for indoor or outdoor use $150

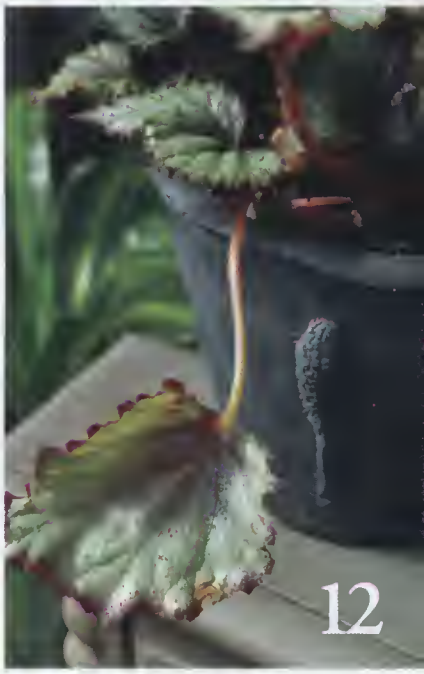
Meadowbrook Farm is located at 1633 Washington Lane, Meadowbrook, PA, 215-887-5900, *meadowbrookfarm.org*



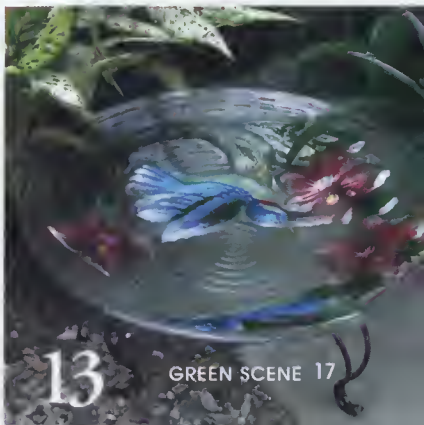












8 **Match Box**
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9 **Red Bicycle Planter**
Halds twa 4-inch and ane 6-ta 8-inch pat $250

10 **Combination Planter**
Fern, begonia, and ivy in a 10-inch terra catta bawl with natural elements like mass and pads $35

11 **Willow Kreel Baskets**
Small $22.50
Large $32.50

12 **Tuscan Kale Clay Pot**
Created by an artist fram Glenside, PA, 6-inch, hand-thrown clay planter $35

13 **Hummingbird Couple Birdbath** Alsa faad safe & makes a great serving piece $43.75

BEAUTIFUL BARK

STORY AND PHOTO BY LAURA BRANDT



Some of us plant trees for shade and some for spring or fall color. Others, however, plant trees for their beautiful bark. For example, the exfoliating bark of certain birches and maples can add color to the bleak winter landscape. One of the best of these is the paperbark maple (*Acer griseum*), which has russet-brown bark that curls in graceful patterns and is a stunner year-round. In fall, its trifoliate leaves turn a lovely reddish color. 'Heritage' river birch (*Betula nigra*) has become a popular native ornamental tree because it is easy to grow and dazzling in the landscape. This fast-growing variety sports smooth, peeling bark in shades of creamy white, coral and cinnamon. If you long for a birch tree, 'Heritage' is the one to grow. Both of these trees are PHS Gold Medal winners (*goldmedalplants.org*).



Photo by Rob Cardillo

PINEAPPLE SAGE

Welcome this Late Bloomer

STORY BY LAURA BRANDT

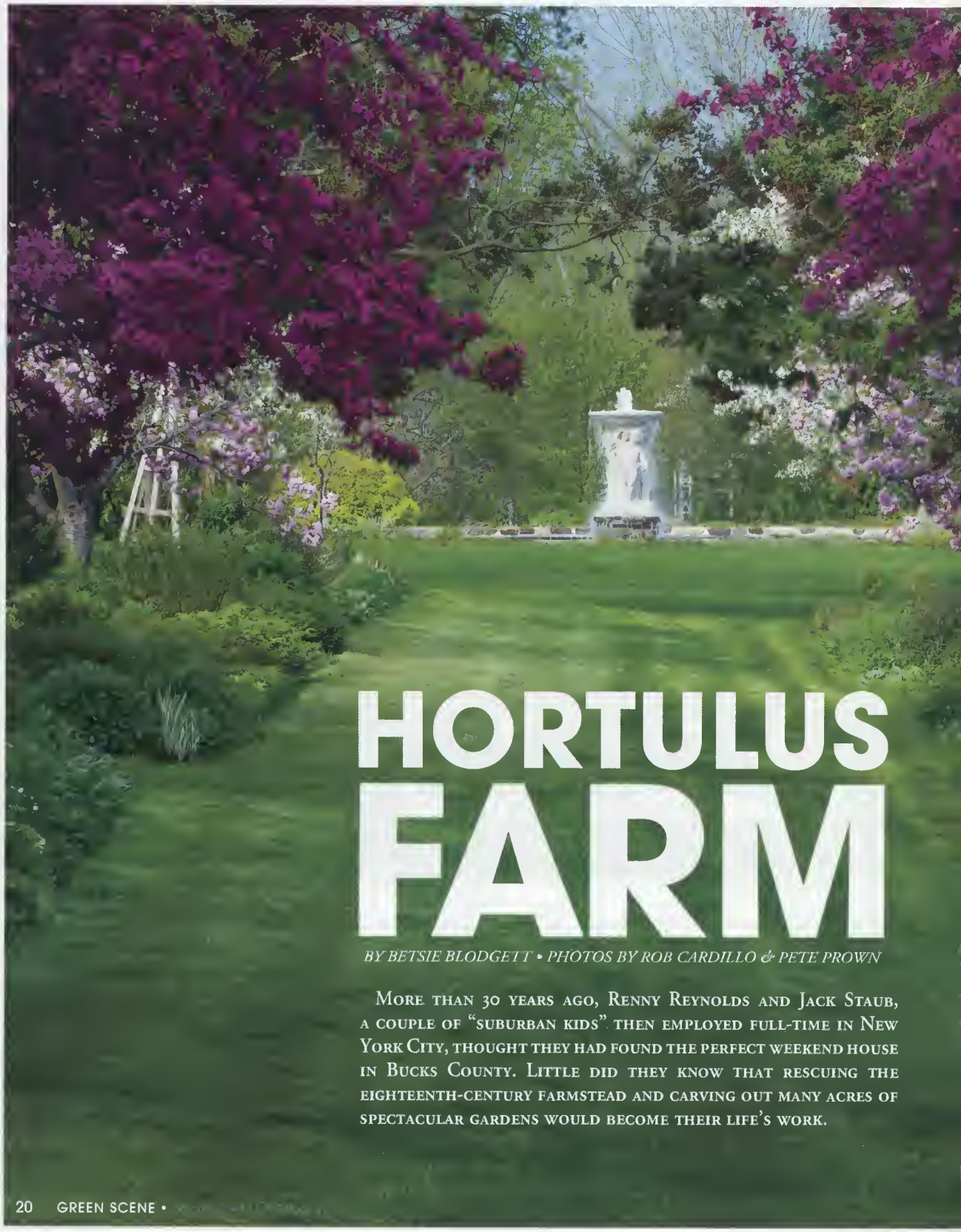
For a pleasant surprise in the fall garden, grow pineapple sage (*Salvia elegans*). I am always amazed to find this fragrant, statuesque plant blooming like crazy—even in late October into November in some years. It's as if an artist has painted graceful strokes of lime-green foliage and bright red blossoms in your fall garden. If you crush the leaves of this enchanting plant you can smell the intoxicating pineapple aroma.

Normally, this Zone 8 plant does not return each year in our area; however, this year my plant grew back for the first time ever. If you want to maximize the chances for the plant's survival, place it in full sun close to the foundation of your house or in a sheltered area away from the wind. Trim it back and add several inches of mulch over the roots. Alternatively, you can dig up the plant and bring it inside for the winter. You can also just plant it as an annual each year, as some local gardeners do, with delphiniums, foxglove, and lupine.

Use the freshly picked leaves to add a unique fruitiness to your salads, tea, jams, and jellies, or to garnish fish and poultry dishes. If you pick the leaves and dry them, store them in a cool, dry place.

Pineapple Sage facts

- Recommended varieties:
 'Scarlet Pineapple'
 'Golden Delicious'
 'Honey Melon'
- Height: 3 to 5 feet
 ('Honey Melon' is shorter)
- Light: sun to light shade
- Deer resistant



HORTULUS FARM

BY BETSIE BLODGETT • PHOTOS BY ROB CARDILLO & PETE PROWN

More than 30 years ago, Renny Reynolds and Jack Staub, a couple of "suburban kids" then employed full-time in New York City, thought they had found the perfect weekend house in Bucks County. Little did they know that rescuing the eighteenth-century farmstead and carving out many acres of spectacular gardens would become their life's work.





The lower barn houses the Museum collection, a showplace for the couple's collection of Bucks County Impressionist paintings, more than 1,000 early and antique gardening books, and other collections like flower frogs and dog statuary.

"It was so bad, that after the Depression it was known as Skunk Hollow," Jack says of the forlorn farmstead that would be reborn as Hortulus Farm (*hortulus* means "small garden" in Latin). The property now encompasses their historic home, restored bank barns and repurposed farm buildings, elegant gardens, a museum collection, and a retail nursery.

When they bought the initial 15-acre parcel in 1980, the property, which dates back to a 1690 William Penn land grant, was a mass of multiflora rose, honeysuckle and bittersweet vines, and other invasive weeds and shrubs. There were no gardens at all. But where most would see a hopeless tangle, Renny, a talented garden designer,



envisioned long vistas, birch and pine allées, formal perennial borders, three ponds and a waterfall, a mouth-watering kitchen garden, and more—24 separate gardens in all connected by pathways and bridges.

"Renny has a master eye," says Jack. "He can look at a space and know what we were going to do." They began with the initial 15 acres—Jack calls it "the heart of the farm," with the stone house, barns, and outbuildings—and added three more 30-acre parcels over the next five years.

Renny and Jack, an author and expert on edible plants and vegetable garden design, want visitors to feel that connection to nature at Hortulus. "We're a real farm; we want people to know where food comes from," Jack says. That includes animals, which Jack and Renny believe bring life to the 1860s barns and farm buildings. (Their chickens roost in a converted carriage house.)

The lower barn houses the Museum collection, a showplace for the couple's Bucks County Impressionist paintings, more than 1,000 early and antique gardening books, and other collections like flower frogs and dog statuary. This is where Renny and Jack also have their offices, and where their dogs find comfortable upholstered chairs on which to snooze.

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Renny is a great plantsman, and the Hortulus Farm Nursery is testament to his talents.



Renny is a great plantsman, and the Hortulus Farm Nursery is testament to his talents. The nursery is known for its clipped and caged specimens and topiaries, and customers have driven from as far away as Connecticut to shop there for special and rare plants.

Although their connection to PHS goes back more than a decade—Hortulus was a Philadelphia International Flower Show major exhibitor for eight years—Renny and Jack are thrilled about a new partnership as one of the organization's four "education hubs" in the Greater Philadelphia Region. Their next event, "A Day in the Garden Devoted to Design," is scheduled for September 28.

Whether you visit Hortulus to take a PHS class, shop at the nursery, stroll the elegant gardens, admire the paintings and collections in the Museum, marvel at the restored farm buildings, or watch the animals, Jack promises you will find "surprises and revelations as you walk around." It is, after all, an extraordinary place where horticulture meets history.

To learn more about visiting Hortulus Farm, please go to *hortulusfarm.com*. For information about PHS classes and events at Hortulus Farm and other locations in the Greater Philadelphia region, please visit *PHSonline.org*.







DINNER PLATE DAHLIAS

STORY & PHOTO BY JESSIE KEITH

Once dismissed as kitschy, old-fashioned garden flowers and sold in color collections fancifully photographed with smiling little girls, dinner plate dahlias are making a serious garden comeback.

These gloriously huge flowers grow in excess of 10 inches across (up to 14 inches in diameter) and are technically classified as "AA Giants" by the American Dahlia Society. But expert growers will be the first to tell you that it takes the right growing conditions and skill to get these flowers to reach perfection.

Dinner plate dahlias come in nearly all colors save true blue, and like most dahlias, these tuberous tender perennials shine brightest when growing temperatures are mild, so don't expect them to fully strut their stuff in high summer. Pennsylvania gardeners can expect them to unfold to greatness toward late summer and fall. But getting them to reach peak size can take a bit of tweaking, according to skilled dahlia growers and exhibitors.

Brent Grant of Kennett Square, PA, is one of those ardent growers who dutifully preps his flowers for both enjoyment and competition. A longtime member of the Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society and chairman of the American Dahlia Society Conference for the Mid-Atlantic States, Brent affirms that diligence is needed to tend AA dahlias.

"Season-long attention and grooming are essential," says Brent. "You have to amend, stake, tend, and consistently control for pests and diseases. And to maximize flower size, disbudding is necessary." This means removing lateral buds from a growing point and leaving one central bud to encourage only one extra-large flower per stem.

In the Mid-Atlantic region, dahlias hit their peak in mid-September, so Brent plants his in May to get the first "flush blooms" perfect for show around late summer. Flowers continue through October, and after the first frost he waits two weeks before digging his tuberous dahlia roots. Through winter the tubers are stored in dry vermiculite in a cool basement. "The tubers must stay cool but above 40 degrees Fahrenheit," he says.

Of the AA dahlias, Brent recommends the giant red 'Winkie Colonel', which has been a winner for him. Several other highly acclaimed selections are the red and cream decorative and informal 'Bodacious' (11 inches); palest yellow semi-cactus 'Aitara Majesty' (12 inches); and the extra-large rosy-purple decorative 'Emory Paul', which is touted as the largest dinner plate, reaching up to 14 inches across.

You can see dinner plates at their finest at the annual Mid-Atlantic Conference Dahlia Show and the Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society Show, both held this year at Longwood Gardens, in Kennett Square, PA, on September 22 and 23. But beware: a table full of dinner plate dahlias can be so enticing that even those formerly tepid toward dahlias might be persuaded to try one or two next year.

These gloriously huge flowers grow in excess of 10 inches across and are technically classified as "AA Giants" by the American Dahlia Society.

The HUES of HORTICULTURE

STORY BY DENISE COWIE

What colors will be in your garden next year?

When color authority Pantone announced Tangerine Tango as its official Color of the Year for 2012, the lively reddish-orange hue began popping up in everything from cosmetics and spring fashions to bedding and home appliances. Even if you have never heard of Pantone, you've probably noticed that there is an abundance of orange around this year. That's not just happenstance; manufacturers and designers put a lot of stock in color forecasts, as do many people in the gardening world.

The Color of the Year, announced in December for the following year, is the one that gets most of the attention, but Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute, notes that Pantone also issues separate fashion color reports for men and women twice a year, plus a panoply of palettes designed for home and interior use. And Pantone isn't the only company issuing forecasts.

What does this mean for your garden? Are colors chosen by a group of designers in a conference room somewhere likely to influence what gardeners buy for their own backyards? "Absolutely!" says Barrett Robinson, senior vice president for operations at PHS and the man in charge of PHS's Meadowbrook Farm, where garden accoutrements as well as plants are sold. "Most people are completely unaware of colorists' picks," he says, "but they buy what they see marketed and advertised, and don't realize they are being steered in a particular direction."

At Meadowbrook, Robinson says, "We noted this trend from the fashion industry and then used Tangerine Tango as a theme that tied everything together," from flowering annuals and containers









TOP: Yau can see arange and ather camplementary calars in the packaging far this tea brand.
LEFT: Camman chamamile, featuring yellow and white hues that shauld be papular calars in 2013.
RIGHT: *Echin*acea 'Butterfly Kisses'

to store banners. "We'll even continue to use it as an accent color through the holidays," he adds.

That works at the retail level, agrees Danielle Ernest, spokesperson for Proven Winners plants, but color forecasts don't have much impact on the plant-breeding side of the horticultural industry because of the timing. A new plant that Proven Winners brings to market in spring of 2013 may have been in the production pipeline for as long as a decade. "But the Color of the Year comes out in December for the following spring. It would have to be determined years in advance to affect breeders," says Ernest.

Besides, she adds, many consider breeding plants an art form: "It would be like telling Picasso he could only use tangerine paint that year."

So, what colors are we likely to be seeing in our garden beds next spring?

Danielle Ernest has little doubt that lemon and white will have a big impact. That's the break-through color combo in the flowers of Superbells Lemon Slice calibrachoa, projected to be a huge introduction for the 20-year-old brand. Proven Winners counts some striking colors among its new plants for 2013, such as the chartreuse-edged pink flowers of Supertunia Picasso in Pink, or the deep velvet hues of the coleus ColorBlaze Marooned.

A couple of dark-foliage introductions from Angela Treadwell-Palmer at Plants Nouveau



Bold orange colors, like those in this Gerbera daisy variety, are hot this year.

COLOR is important



RIGHT: A chair that illustrates Pantone's "Out of the Ordinary" home & interiors palette for 2013. With colors like Bonnie Blue, Pureed Pumpkin, Golden Rod and Rosebud, this palette has a "sense of fun to it," says Leatrice Eiseman of the Pantone Color Institute.
BELOW: A typical color-swatch sampler used by designers, artists, gardeners, and home decorators.



should also lend drama to the garden next spring, including a colocasia called 'Pucker Up,' for its puckered leaves, and an alocasia named 'Zulu Mask.'

Among the new plants her company is introducing for 2013 from breeders in Europe and the United States, Treadwell-Palmer mentions a lovely pink fall-blooming camellia called 'Susy Dirr,' as well as a bouquet of echinaceas: 'Honeydew,' with a lime center and white ray petals; 'Butterfly Kisses,' a short pink double; and the yellow-flowered 'Cleopatta' and orange 'Julia,' both shott singles that ate popular in Europe.

Color is important, "though it all comes down to how plants look in the garden center," she says. "In the Netherlands you see very bright colors, lots of pink and orange and yellow and lime green. You see it in accessories for the home, in pots for the garden center, in gnomes."

"Optimistic colors" are what trend tracker Suzi McCoy called them in her *Global Consumer Trends Report 2013 to 2014*, which she presented to the horticultural industry at the prestigious OFA Short Course in July. She sees bold, intense colors in gardening's future, including metallics—reflective pots *and* plants—and lots of purple, happy yellow, positive pink, bright blue, and lively green.

Next year will also see a big upswing in herb gardening, McCoy predicts. "You can get all the trendy colors in herbs," she adds, such as the wild bergamot, or bee balm, chosen by the Herb Society of America as its Notable Native Herb for 2013.

In the end, though, it's about personal taste.

Pantone's Leatrice Eiseman, a container gardener herself, is reluctant to say that Pantone's color choices have any impact on gardens, though she does allow that outdoor furnishings might be influenced by the nine Home & Interiors palettes. "That's why we do nine different palettes, so that people can gravitate to whatever their comfort level and taste is," says Eiseman. "Not everyone wants to do their home in the same way."

Or their garden. There's a lot of room for choice, but subtle influences are always at play. Some influences are a given, adds Eiseman—a year that experiences the Summer Olympics and Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee in England, for example, is sure to spawn the red, white, and blue combination in 2013's New Old School palette.

But don't worry, Tangerine Tango won't suddenly be passé on January 1. It will be right there in Pantone's ethnic-influenced Footprints palette for 2013.

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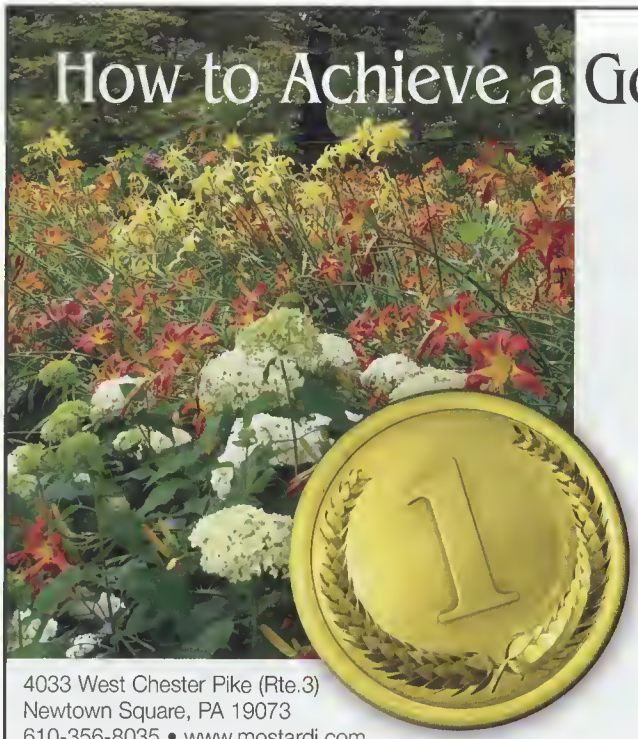
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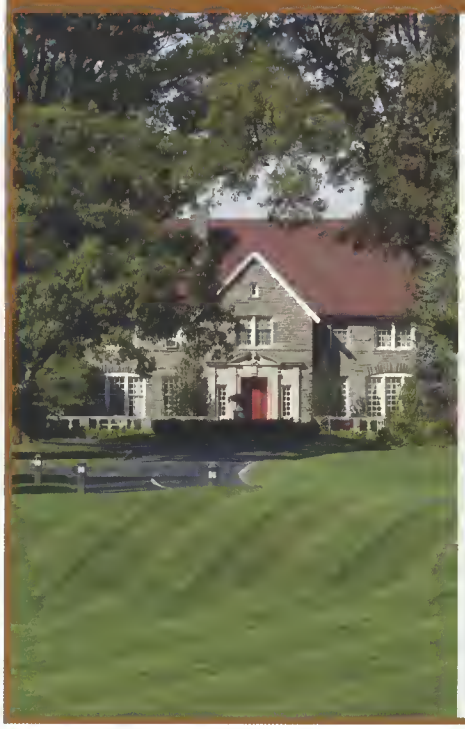
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Fresh on the Plate

Stateside Restaurant in South Philly

BY LAURA B. HOOVER
PHOTOGRAPHY BY FELICIA PERRETTI

There's a benefit to changing the menu each week and a half, says George Sabatino, the award-winning executive chef of South Philadelphia's Stateside restaurant: "It's fun, and honestly, it keeps me creative and the cooks on their toes."



1536 East Passyunk Ave.

statesidephilly.com

215-551-2500

Sabatino, 30, is a Trenton, NJ, native who's worked at Barbuzzo, Lolita, and Pub & Kitchen. He attributes Stateside's dedication to farm-to-table mostly to his mentor, Chef Marcie Turney, the chef-owner of several restaurants and boutiques on 13th Street. "I was fortunate to work under Marcie for six or seven years, and she had already developed relationships with farmers," he says. "She was the first one to take me to Headhouse Square on Sundays and opened my eyes to how cool it was to see where your food was coming from."

Stateside, which overlooks the fountain in East Passyunk Square, features contemporary American fare, pleasing both foodies and neighborhood residents alike. During the height of the growing season, the restaurant sources more than 50 percent of its produce and meat from local farms, including Lancaster Farm Fresh Cooperative and Green Meadow Farm in Gap, PA. Sabatino looks forward to visits from Green Meadow's Ian Brendle each Thursday, when he brings in the latest harvest.

"It's exciting to see what produce comes in each week," says Sabatino. "Aside from the great quality of fruits and vegetables, it's the relationships with these farmers that help Stateside thrive."

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Fall Canning Joy

BY JESSIE KEITH

When it comes to storing fall produce, canning is where it's at. Well-canned produce lasts longest, tastes best, and makes excellent holiday gifts. But home canning also strikes fear into the hearts of newbies because when it goes wrong, it ruins food and invites deadly botulism—both nasty outcomes. No worries, new canners! Good canning is easily done, with the right steps, and by following this easy guide you'll be ripe with its rewards.

What one cans may make or break initial success and canning confidence. Canning truly crispy gherkins, for example, can be tricky, while fully cooked chutneys, jams, and fruit butters are easy to get right. They allow new canners to work on basic technique while ensuring end products will be texturally correct.

Good equipment is crucial too. All the essentials must be laid out, prepped, cleaned, and ready to go before canning can commence. Sterile technique is at the heart of good canning. That means keeping everything hot and germ-free, especially food stuffs and jar interiors. This is laid out in just seven basic steps that will put you on the path toward preserving your harvest.



Materials:

canning pot
4 oz. quilted crystal jelly jars
canning jar rack or canning jar lifter
canning lids and screw bands (new)
labels and permanent marker
ladle, wide-mouthed funnel, and tongs with good grip

Steps:

1. Wash your hands and workspace before starting.

2. Sterilize jars by filling a large pot with water to a depth that will cover them. Submerse as many jars as you can in the pot. Bring the water to a rolling boil and boil for 10 minutes. Remove the hot jars with clean tongs while gently pouring the hot water out before removal. Place the jars upside down on a clean towel and avoid touching their interiors. (Keep the water in the canning pot simmering.)

3. Using a clean ladle and wide-mouthed funnel, fill jars with hot prepared chutney, jam, or butter. Fill to a level that allows around an inch of headspace from the top of the preserve to the top of the jar. Wipe messy jar rims with a clean damp cloth and gently tap the base of the jars to remove any internal bubbles.

4. Place lids and screw bands on the jars. Manufacturer's instructions may vary, so follow those on the box. Lids can be added one by one if you're concerned about leaving open jars exposed for too long.

5. Place the jars on the jar rack and lower them into the pot of hot water. If you have no rack lower the jars in with a canning jar lifter, being sure to keep jars from touching. Cover the canning pot and keep at a low boil for 10 minutes.

6. Remove the jars from the pot and place them on towels to cool. Once cool, dry outside thoroughly and apply labels. Include the name of the preserve and date made. Store in a cool dry place.

7. After jars have set for 12 to 24 hours, check for success. If the lids are tight, air free, and cannot be pressed down, they're fine. If they pop down, they are improperly sealed, but don't throw them away. You can either put them in the refrigerator for immediate use or try to re-cap them following steps 4 through 6. As a general rule, canned food is best used in the first year.

Last of the Green Tomato Chutney

An English favorite, green tomato chutney is easy to make and the perfect way to use all those late-season green tomatoes hanging on the vine. This slightly spicy recipe tastes great on sharp cheddar cheese sandwiches and hamburgers.

INGREDIENTS

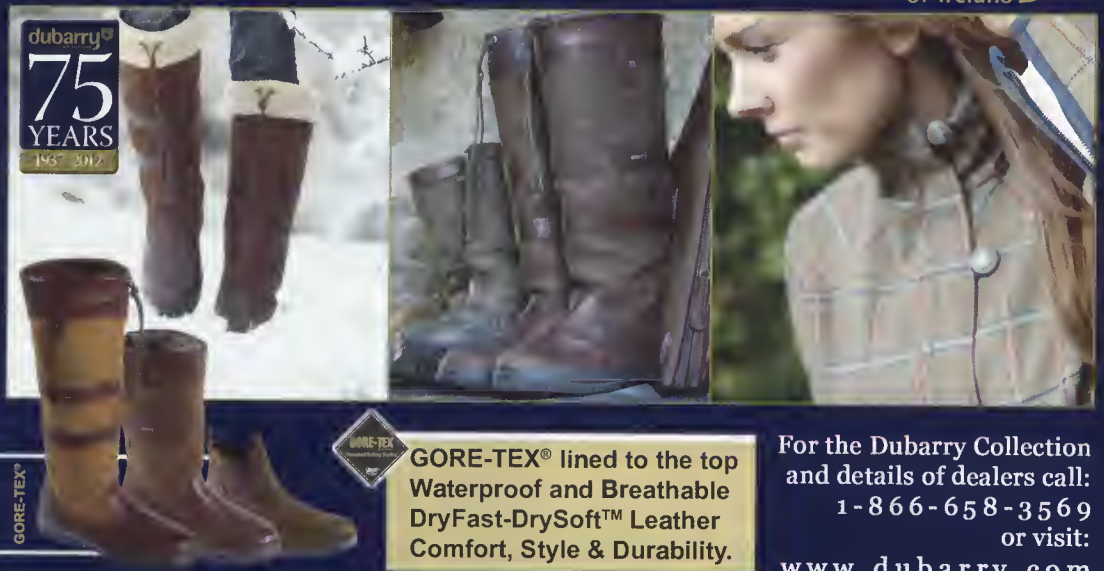
2 1/2 lbs. green tomatoes, seeded and chopped
1 large Spanish onion, finely chopped
1 cup sultanas (golden raisins), lightly chopped
1 cup light brown sugar
1 tsp. freshly grated ginger
1/2 tsp. ground allspice
1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper
2 tsp. salt
1 cup malt vinegar
1 large cayenne pepper quartered and seeded (spicier or milder peppers can be used)

Thoroughly mix all ingredients in a bowl and transfer to a large saucepan set to medium heat. Simmer and occasionally stir for 30 to 45 minutes, until the chutney is well-caramelized and has cooked down to a moderately thick consistency. The chutney becomes thicker as it cools. Keep warm on low heat until you are ready to divide and can the chutney. This recipe should make around five 4-oz. jars.



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You may also fill out the reservation form below and mail to: PHS, Attn: Education Programs, 100 N. 20th St., 5th floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1495. You may register by phone by calling the telephone number listed for each program.

Confirmations will be sent for all events except Garden Visits and Brown-Bag Lunches. Your confirmation will serve as your ticket for events. Travel directions will be included when appropriate. If a program is filled, we will add your name to the wait list, and we will call you if space becomes available. No payment is required to be placed on the wait list.

Refunds and Cancellations: Cancellations must be received at least five business days before the event. No refund if fewer than five days. PHS retains a $5 cancellation fee.

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SEPTEMBER

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Informotion: 215-988-8845. Fee: $25.

Three Thursdays: Sept. 6, 13 & 20
6–9 pm
Bucks County Cooperative Extension
Neshaminy Manor Center
1282 Almshouse Rd.
Doylestown, PA 18901

Three Tuesdays: Sept. 11, 18 & 25,
6–9 pm
Green Valleys Association at Welkinweir
1368 Prizer Rd.
Pottstown, PA 19465

Sogetsu Ikebana for Pleasure

Monday, September 10, 11am-12:30 pm
PHS McLean Library
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Lorroine Toji, who began studying Sogetsu Ikebana over 30 years ago, will create a series of arrangements, from basic ones with natural materials through very contemporary creations. **Informotion: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Walk: Turf Wars—Straighten Your Bent Grass

Wednesday, September 12
5:30–7:30 pm
Chanticleer
786 Church Rd.
Wayne, PA 19087

Chanticleer's **Scott Steinfeldt** will provide an overview of lawn care basics every homeowner should know. His topics will include the best turf gross vorieties for residential lowns; mowing frequency, fertilizer, and watering; and essentiol lawn care equipment. **Informotion: 215-988-8869. Limit: 25. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Make a Miniature Garden

Thursday, September 13, 6–8 pm
Meadowbrook Farm
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Miniature landscapes allow you to express your style on a small scale. Environmental educotor **Brendo Sullivon** will demonstrate how to create an indoor miniature landscape in a terra cotta bowl. You will use a variety of tools, pots, etc. Participants may purchase a container if desired.
Informotion: 215-988-8872. Fee: $45 members, $55 non-members.

Caring for the Soil

Saturday, September 15, 10 am–12 pm
Meadowbrook Farm
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Join us for a lively discussion by Organic Mechanics founder **Mork Highlond** on compost, cover crops, and the care and feeding of soil communities.
Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.

PECO Green Roof Tour

Tuesday, September 18, 5 pm
PECO Building
2301 Market St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Want to learn about exciting green roof technology and how it can help the environment? PHS's popular monthly tours of the green roof at the downtown PECO building continue through October. At more than 45,000 square feet, the PECO green roof features an observation deck and stunning views of Philadelphia. **Limit 25. Pre-registrotion at leost two business doys beforehond required. Tour porticiponts must be ot leost 18 yeors of oge. Information: 215-988-8869. Fee: $5 PHS members, $10 non-members.** Note: Group tours for 10 or more people are available. Please contact Chela Kleiber at 215-988-8775 or *ckleiber@pennhort.org* to arrange a group tour.

Walk: September Splendor

Wednesday, September 19
5:30–7:30 pm
Chanticleer
786 Church Rd.
Wayne, PA 19087

September brings cooler nights and renewed garden vigor. Many plants are at their peak, including perennials like asters and ornamental grasses and fall-blooming bulbs such as colchicum. Many vegetables are ready for harvest at this time of year as well. **Jonothan Wright** will be our guide around the Chanticleer gardens during this wonderful transitional season. **Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 25. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Fabulous Fall Containers

Wednesday, September 19, 6–7:30 pm
The Salvation Army Kroc Center
4200 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19129

Garden designer **Toni Ann Flonigon** will demonstrate how to create an attractive late-season container garden incorporating a variety of textures, colors, and forms. **Informotion: 215-988-8872. Fee: FREE but pre-registrotion is required.**

Programs at the PHS Pop Up Garden

Free programs for all ages are held at the PHS Pop Garden, on Walnut Street just off Rittenhouse Square, thraugh October 12. Children's activities on Tuesdays, "Faodie Fridays," and Friday-evening farmers markets are just a few of the offerings. Visit the calendar at *PHSonline.org* for program information.



Storing Your Produce & Making Vinegar

Thursday, September 20, 6–8 pm
Meadowbrook Farm
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Meadowbrook Farm horticulturist **Tom Reber** will talk about how to store your garden produce and make a variety of herb vinegars. Participants will make and take home a bottle of vinegar. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $45 members, $55 non-members.**

2012 PHS Fall Garden Festival

Saturday, September 22, 9 am–5 pm
The Navy Yard
South Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA
Free admission and parking

Start the fall season with a fantastic celebration! The PHS Fall Garden Festival will be held the first day of autumn, September 22, at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. The festival is all about family, and we'll have great activities for kids, shopping for adults, a preview of the 2013 Flower Show, and much more. The festival includes the annual Plant Dividend for PHS Members. **For more information, see page 11 or visit the PHS website at *PHSonline.org*.**

Philadelphia Community Farming Collaborative On-Farm Field Days

These "Beginning Farmer Workshops" are designed to build on one another. **Information: 215-988-8885. FREE. No registration required.**

Seed Saving
Wednesday, September 26, 6 pm
PHS
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Walk/Demonstration: Flower Arranging From the Garden

Thursday, September 27, 5:30–7:30 pm
Chanticleer
786 Church Rd.
Wayne, PA 19087

Why spend money buying flowers when you can create something of beauty from what's growing right outside in your garden, regardless of the time of year? Join Chanticleer horticulturist **Lisa Roper** on an inspiring walk through Chanticleer in search of great flowers to cut for indoor enjoyment. Afterwards, Lisa will demonstrate and discuss techniques for creating arrangements while putting together numerous creations before your eyes. **Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 25. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Evening Garden Stroll at Meadowbrook Farm

Thursday, September 27, 6–8 pm
Meadowbrook Farm
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Join horticulturist **Tom Reber** for a guided walk through Meadowbrook's gardens. Tom will highlight specific plants, plant combinations, and the overall vision for the design of the garden **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Demonstration/Tour: A Day in the Garden Devoted to Design

Friday, September 28, 10 am–3 pm
Hortulus Farm Nursery and Gardens
62 Thompson Mill Rd.
Wrightstown, PA 18940

Treat yourself to a full day learning about garden design. **Renny Reynolds**, co-owner of Hortulus Farm Nursery and Gardens, has designed gardens featured in magazines such as *Architectural Digest* and *Town and Country*. He will give a morning talk about design basics, followed by a question-and-answer session and lunch. In the afternoon Renny will lead a tour of a 30-acre section of this picturesque property that has been developed into 24 individual gardens, including a peony walk, woodland walk, French garden, Italian fountains garden, and more.

We will also visit the Farm Museum, a showplace for Bucks County Impressionist paintings and other artifacts. Also notable is Renny and partner Jack Staub's horticultural library of almost 1,000 garden books, as well as collections of antique garden tools, statuary, and garden letters. You will take home a gift plant as a souvenir of the day. **Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 20. Fee: $90 members, $100 non-members.**

OCTOBER

Coach Trip: Monet's Garden at the New York Botanical Garden

Tuesday, October 2, 8 am –7 pm approximately
New York Botanical Garden
Bronx, NY

Join us for a day at the New York Botanical Garden savoring the relationship between one of the world's most beloved artists and his garden. The new Monet's Garden at the New York Botanical Garden showcases a seasonally changing interpretation of Claude Monet's gardens. In addition, two rarely seen paintings by Monet, one of which has never been shown in the United States, will be on exhibit.

We will tour the garden in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, which explores the legacy of Monet's idyllic garden in Giverny, transforming the conservatory into a floral masterpiece of diverse plants, bold colors, and dramatic design. Monet's most famous subject, water lilies (including many varieties he grew), will be growing in the Conservatory Courtyard's Hardy Pool. After the tour we will have lunch on our own. In the afternoon we'll take a self-guided tour in the LuEsther T. Mertz Library's Rondina Gallery, which includes the two

paintings, other Monet artifacts, and photographic portraits of the garden at Giverny by Elizabeth Murray.

Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 35. Fee: $110 members, $120 non-members. Fee includes coach (pick-up from PHS or the Horticulture Center in Fairmount Park), snacks and wine on the bus, and the tour and admission to the garden.

Inspiring Floral Artistry: A Hallmark of Spectacular Design

Wednesday–Friday, Oct. 3–5
Longwood Gardens
1001 Longwood Rd.
Kennett Square, PA 19348

PHS and Longwood Gardens present "Inspiring Floral Artistry: A Hallmark of Spectacular Design," a series of workshops, demonstrations, and events with internationally acclaimed designer **Damien Koh**. All events take place October 3 through 5 at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA. **Information: 215-988-8897 or visit *PHSonline.org*.**

PHS Tree Tenders® Training

Three Wednesdays: Oct. 3, 10 & 17
5:45–8:45 pm
PHS
100 North 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
See September listing for details.

Philadelphia Community Farming Collaborative On-Farm Field Days

Cool-Season Hoop-House
Wednesday, October 3, 6 pm
Teens4Good 8th and Poplar Farm
N. 8th and Poplar streets
Philadelphia, PA
See September 27 for details.

Stories From the Garden: PHS McLean Library Book Discussion Group

Thursday, October 4, 5:45–7:45 pm
PHS McLean Library
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

This group meets on the first Thursday evening of the month, October through June (skipping March for the Flower Show). Join us in reading and discuss-







Volunteer Opportunities

Get Involved in Plant One Million

Help make our region healthier and more beautiful by planting trees! The Plant One Million partnership is working with volunteers to plant one million trees throughout the Greater Philadelphia Region. To find a tree-planting event near you, please visit ***plantonemillion.org***, or plant a tree at home, and then visit the websti to make sure your tree is counted.

Help Care for Treasured Landscapes

PHS leads groups of dedicated volunteers who help care for several of Philadelphia's beloved public landscapes, including the Azalea Garden in Fairmount Park, the plantings at the Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site, the Gas Station Garden near PHS headquarters, and others. To learn more or to volunteer, please visit *PHSonline.org* and click on "Get Involved."

ing works of fiction or non-fiction having to do with gardening, plants, nature, or the land. Participants need to obtain and read each month's selection prior to the meeting. Participation is free and open to all, but registration is requested. **Please contact Priscilla Becroft at *pbecroft@pennhort.org* or 215-988-8772 to register.** This month's selection: *The Year of the Flood* by Margaret Atwood.

Fall Fun at Meadowbrook Farm

Saturday, October 6, 8 am–6 pm
activities 10 am–4 pm
Meadowbrook Farm
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Meadowbrook Farm welcomes the changing season with a festive fall event that includes great shopping, self-guided tours of the estate house, crisp fall refreshments, and activities for little ones. Visit *meadowbrookfarm.org* for more information.

PHS Garden Tenders Training: How to Start a Community Garden

Saturday, October 6, 10 am–1 pm
PHS
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Learn what it takes to get a community garden started in this introduction to PHS Garden Tenders. Open to groups, individuals, teachers, and anyone interested in gardening with others. Topics include finding a site, getting permission, assessing your resources, and organizing a group. **Information: 215-988-8845. Fee: $25.**

McLean Library Book Sale

Wednesday, October 10, 9:30 am–5 pm
(re-scheduled from October 4)
PHS McLean Library
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

The annual McLean Library sale offers used gardening classics and newer titles at exceptional prices. This year we'll also offer fiction titles, DVDs, and CDs. All proceeds benefit the Library. **Donate your used books for the sale.** We are seeking books in good condition on gardens, plants, the landscape, and natural history, as well as general fiction. We also welcome high-quality DVDs and CDs (no videotapes, please). Drop off items at the McLean Library between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday or at Meadowbrook Farm, 1633 Washington Lane, Abington Township, PA. **Contact Priscilla Becroft at *pbecroft@pennhort.org* or 215-988-8772 for more information.**

Everyday Flower Arranging

Monday, October 15, 11 am–12:30 pm
PHS McLean Library
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Floral designers **Valerie McLaughlin**, **Susan Essick**, and **Patti Kelly** will demonstrate the basics and mechanics of flower arranging, creating three different arrangements using a variety of flowers and plants from the garden. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

PECO Green Roof Tour

Tuesday, October 16, 5 pm (twilight tour)
PECO Building
2301 Market St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
See September 18 for details.

McLean Library Lunchtime Short Story Group

Wednesday, October 17, 12–1:30 pm
PHS McLean Library
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

The PHS McLean Library's daytime short story group meets October through June (skipping March for the Flower Show). Join us in reading and discussing short stories with gardening or nature themes. Participants need to obtain and read each selection prior to the meeting. Participation is free and open to all, but registration is requested. **Please contact Priscilla Becroft at *pbecroft@pennhort.org* or 215-988-8772 to register.** This month's selection: Eudora Welty, "A Curtain of Green."

Workshop: Painting Flowers and Plants with Watercolor

Eight Tuesdays: Oct. 16–Dec. 4
10 am–1 pm
PHS
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

If you feel challenged by the medium of watercolor and have wondered how botanical artists create the illusion of reality, this is the class for you! Presented by **Eileen Rosen**, this popular eight-part class includes mixing the colors of nature, making a color journal, creating form and dimensionality, and discussing watercolor brushes and paper. We will work from live specimens, beginning with fruits and vegetables. A materials list, including items needed for the first class, will be mailed upon registration. **Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 15. Fee: $215 members, $230 non-members.**

Green City Teachers: Integrating Greening into Your School

Four Tuesdays: Oct. 16, 23 & 30; Nov. 6, 5:30–8:30 pm.
Plus Sat.: Oct. 27,10 am–1 pm
PHS
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

This five-session course will encourage educators to integrate horticulture and environmental education into their classrooms as they participate in a forum for sharing ideas. Teachers, individuals, parents, gardeners, and informal educators are invited to participate. Topics include basic horticulture, food gardening, trees, indoor gardening, and habitat gardens. Act 48 credit is available. **Information: 215-988-8845. Fee: $50.**

Preserving the Harvest

Wednesday, October 17, 6–7:30 pm
The Salvation Army Kroc Center
4200 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19129

Do you grow more vegetables than you know what to do with? Have you pleaded with your neighbors or coworkers to take your extra zucchinis and tomatoes? Learn how to preserve your garden's abundance simply and safely. Almost any vegetable or fruit can be preserved. An expert from the **Rodale Institute** will provide tips, recipes, and demonstrations. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: FREE but registration is required.**

Make a Miniature Garden

Thursday, October 18, 6–8 pm
Meadowbrook Farm
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Miniature landscapes allow you to express your style on a small scale. Environmental educator **Brenda Sullivan** will demonstrate how to create an indoor miniature landscape in a terra cotta bowl. You will use a variety of tools, pots, etc. to make a mini garden. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $45 members, $55 non-members.**

Perennial Plant Conference

Friday, October 19, 8 am–5:30 pm
Swarthmore College
Lang Performing Arts Center
Swarthmore, PA

Join us for an all-day conference focusing on perennial plants, co-sponsored by PHS, Chanticleer, Longwood Gardens, the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College, and the Hardy Plant Society/Mid-Atlantic Group. Speakers include Neil DiBoll, Christine Ten Eyck, Kelly Norris, Ken Smith, and Noel Kingsbury. **For more information and to register online, please visit *perennialplantconference.org*.**

PHeaSt!

Friday, October 19, 7–10 pm
The Navy Yard
South Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA

Get ready for ***PHeaSt***, on Friday evening, October 19, an exciting event at the PHS warehouse at the Navy Yard. With an industrial-chic setting, the party will bring together the region's great chefs and fantastic local farmers, and all proceeds will benefit PHS City Harvest. **Visit *PHSonline.org* for more information.** This is one party you won't want to miss!

Joys and Chores in the Fall Garden

Saturday, October 20, 10 am–12 pm
Meadowbrook Farm
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

There ore many rewording things to do in the gorden in the foll. Horticulturist **Lori Hayes** will tolk obout plont selection, spring bulbs, cutting back plants, creating fall and winter containers, and collecting and storing seeds. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Coach Trip: Northern Manhattan Transformed

Monday, October 22, 8 am –7 pm, approximately
New York City

This trip features tours of public spaces that have transformed neighborhoods in northern Manhattan, led by celebrated public garden designer **Lynden Miller** and PHS President **Drew Becher**. The day will include tours of a park and community gardens restored and developed by the New York Restoration Project (NYRP), as well as two public spaces designed by Lynden Miller.

Nestled in Manhattan's Upper East Side, **Swindler Cove Park**, formerly an illegal dumping site, now encompasses five reclaimed acres along the Harlem River. An oasis of native natural habitats, the park features one of the only saltwater marshes on Manhattan's shoreline. We will visit the **Family Garden**, sponsored by Tiffany & Co. and designed by John Loring, as well as **Rodale Pleasant Park** community gardens in East Harlem, designed by Billie Cohen. At **Columbia University** Lynden Miller has created elegant and colorful plantings and has worked to educate and inspire the maintenance staff to care for the grounds. The **Heather Garden in Fort Tryon Park** is one of the largest heath and heather gardens on the East Coast. It is sited on slopes more than a hundred

feet above the Hudson River, offering stunning vistas of the New Jersey Palisades.

See page 10 for more information or call 215-988-8869. Limit: 35. Fee: $90 members, $100 non-members. Fee includes coach bus, snacks and wine on the bus, and tours. Lunch will be on your own at nearby restaurants.

Master Class Workshop: Fall is for Photographs—Lessons from a Pro

Tuesday, October 23, 8 am–2 pm
Arboretum of the Barnes Foundation
300 North Latch's Lane
Merion, PA 19066

Professional garden photographer **Rob Cardillo** will reveal what goes into creating dramatic vistas and inspired floral portraits. Using examples of his own work, Rob will begin the day with an illustrated lecture on how great images are found, designed, and translated through the lens. Students will then head into the gardens to capture compelling images. We'll reassemble after lunch to download photos and engage in a lively critique. Whether you're a point-and-shoot beginner or a seasoned photographer, you'll come away with new tools and fresh ideas to make your own garden photos sing.

Bring your digital camera, lenses, charged battery, storage cards, and a tripod if desired, as well as a brown-bag lunch and beverage. A laptop with software to download and edit your images will also be useful. If you don't have a laptop, please bring a selection of your favorite older garden photos.

Rob Cardillo has been photographing gardens, plants, and the people that tend them for more than 20 years. His most recent book is *Chanticleer—A Pleasure Garden* (written by Adrian Higgins). **Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 15. Fee: $90 PHS and Barnes Foundation members, $100 non-members.**

Walk and Talk: Masterclass with Noel Kingsbury, The Rabbit's Eye View

Wednesday, October 24, 5–7 pm
Chanticleer
786 Church Rd.
Wayne, PA 19087

Join us for a unique opportunity to learn up close and personal from renowned innovator, writer, and teacher **Noel Kingsbury**. This garden-based workshop aims at encouraging participants to closely observe garden plants focusing on their growth, longevity, and suitability for a variety of garden locations. Noel will show us the "rabbit's eye view" of plants and discuss how plants are linked to their natural habitats and ecology and how this connects to the way we use them in gardens. Wine and light refreshments will be served during the presentation.

Noel Kingsbury has developed nature-inspired plantings in both private gardens and public spaces and has written about garden design, green roofs, and the politics of gardening. His latest enterprise: the world's first gardening soap opera. He lives in the Welsh Borders near Hay-on-Wye. **Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 20. Fee: $40 members, $50 non-members.**

Evening Garden Stroll at Meadowbrook Farm

Thursday, October 25, 6–8 pm
See September 27 for details.

Walk: Flaming Foliage

Saturday, October 27, 1–3 pm
Chanticleer
786 Church Rd.
Wayne, PA 19087

Join **Joe Henderson** for a delightful walk through Chanticleer at the peak of its autumn glory, when the deciduous trees display a riot of fiery foliage color. Joe will describe how the leaves turn color in the fall, why we have fall in our region, why some years are more dramatic than others, and which trees you should include in your landscape for the best autumn color.
Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 25. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.

Workshop: Miniature Portraits of Springton Manor Farm with Colored Pencils

Two Saturdays: Oct. 27 & Nov. 3
10 am–1 pm
Springton Manor Farm
860 Springton Rd.
Glenmoore, PA 19343

This early-seventeenth-century demonstration farm will be the inspiration for a two-day workshop led by **Eileen Rosen**. With step-by-step instruction and demonstrations, participants will learn to simplify details; draw simple shapes; and mix, layer, and blend with wax-based colored pencils. Bucolic open pastures, a pond, gazebo, Victorian manor house, farm animals—all are possible subject matter to include in your miniature painting. No previous experience needed. **Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 12. Fee: $60 members, $75 non-members.**

Evening Lecture: London Squares and Gardens Fit for a Queen

Tuesday, October 30, 6:30 pm
The Union League of Philadelphia
140 South Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

It's not too early to get in the mood for the British invasion at the 2013 Philadelphia Flower Show, *Brilliant!*, opening the first weekend in March. In this lecture, presented in partnership with the Royal Oak Foundation, landscape architect and historian **Todd Longstaffe-Gowan** will delve into the history, evolution, and social implications of London's squares, which have been an important element in city planning and have played a crucial role in the development of urban life. He will also discuss his re-presentation of the pleasure grounds at Kensington Palace for Queen Elizabeth in spring 2012, the largest new garden to be laid out at a British Royal Palace for more than a century.

Todd Longstaffe-Gowan is a prominent landscape architect, historian, and author, as well as Gardens Adviser to Historic Royal Palaces. He is the author of *The London Square: Gardens in the Midst of Town*.

This program is co-sponsored by PHS, the Royal Oak Foundation, and the Union League of Philadelphia. There will be a reception sponsored by Freeman's Auctioneers at 6 pm, followed by an optional dinner. Dinner reservations are non-refundable and must be made by October 24. Formal business attire is required. **Fee: lecture only: $25 members and non-members. Lecture and dinner: $75 members and guests. Registration is required through the Royal Oak Foundation. Call 212-480-2889, ext. 201 or visit *royal-oak.org*.**

NOVEMBER

Stories From the Garden: PHS McLean Library Book Discussion Group

Thursday, November 1, 5:45–7:45 pm
Audur Avo Olafsdottir, *The Greenhouse*
See October 4 for details.

Artistic Workshop—Designing for the Philadelphia International Flower Show

Saturday, November 3, 10 am–12 pm
Cinnaminson Library
1619 Riverton Rd.
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

This workshop and demonstration will provide everything you need to know to exhibit in the arrangement classes at the Philadelphia International Flower Show. The entry process, timeline, design types, and staging will be discussed in an informal setting with the opportunity to ask every question you may have. **Information: 215-988-8826 or *bgreene@pennhort.org*. Free. No registration required.**

Evening Lecture: Gardening with Nature

Monday, November 5, 6 pm
PHS
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

This program presents **Twin Maples**, in Solisbury, Connecticut, purchased in 1996 by Douglas and Wilmer Thomas—the third recorded owners of nearly 400 acres received by the original owner as a land grant from George II of England in 1740. On this historic property, the Thomases have built a Georgian-style house and guest cottage, both designed by David Anthony Easton. They have also developed 40 acres of wildflower meadows as well as formal gardens, with assistance from native plantsman Larry Weaner, landscape architect Rodney Robinson, and horticulturist Deborah Munson. This program explores the landscape in all seasons and describes the process of planting sustainable wildflower meadows that flourish and become more beautiful each year.

The McLean Library will be open until 5:45 this evening. The lecture will be followed by a wine and cheese reception. **Information: 215-988-8869. Fee: $10 members, $20 non-members.**

Cool-Season Vegetable Gardening

Saturday, November 10, 10 am–12 pm
Meadowbrook Farm
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Organic farmer **Nicolas Esposito** will talk about how to keep your vegetable garden producing as winter sets in. He'll discuss cold frames, row covers, and types of crops that flourish in cooler weather. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Thanksgiving Floral Designs

Monday, November 12, 11 am–12:30 pm
PHS McLean Library
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Floral designers **Valerie McLaughlin, Susan Essick,** and **Patti Kelly** will demonstrate how to make a hand-tied bouquet, a table arrangement, and a wreath, using flowers, fruit, and nuts. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

McLean Library Lunchtime Short Story Group

Wednesday, November 14, 12–1:30 pm
This month's selection: William Maxwell, "Gardens of Mont-Saint-Michel"
See October 4 for details.

Terrariums: Landscapes Under Glass

Wednesday, November 14, 6–7:30 pm
The Salvation Army Kroc Center
4200 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19129

Terrariums are wonderful, magical environments. Horticulturist **Lori Hayes** will provide easy-to-follow instruction on plant selection, containers, and how to create and maintain a garden under glass. **Information: 215-988-8872. FREE but registration is required.**

The Art of Bonsai

Saturday, November 17, 10 am–12 pm
Meadowbrook Farm
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Meadowbrook horticulturist **Bernard Pettit** will inspire you to try your hand at this ancient art. He'll discuss basic bonsai principles such as intent, design, tools, and techniques, as well as offer tips from professionals. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Philadelphia Community Farming Collaborative On-Farm Field Days

Crop Planning 101
November 28, 6 pm
PHS
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
See September 26 for details.



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PHS now offers an **Apple iPad version** of the magazine in brilliant color! When each issue is published, all qualifying members will receive an email containing links to each version.

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sulfur-rich food is further reported to help fight cancer. Besides kale salad, recipes include kale risotto, kale fish chowder, kale fettuccini, and even kale bread pudding. You haven't tried kale chips? This latest snack craze has been fueled by endorsements from TV food and nutrition celebrities. Buy a bag or better yet, make some fresh from your garden—an easy-to-make nutritious snack.

Fortunately, you'll be able to select from a variety of vegetables from Meadowbrook Farm this fall. Offerings include arugula, broccoli 'Belstar', cabbage 'Fast Vantage', beets, Swiss chard, and varieties of kale, lettuce, and ornamental peppers.

Once you get your plants home, don't delay. Plant them in good loamy soil with excellent drainage in a sunny location. Raised beds and containers are also a popular choice. To keep your vegetables protected from the elements as the temperatures dip down, you can cover your vegetables with glass cloches, cold frames, or various types of row covers made from fabric or plastic.

So don't be afraid to take a chance on growing some cool-weather crops this fall. You'll be smiling when you bite into your freshly picked produce at Thanksgiving.

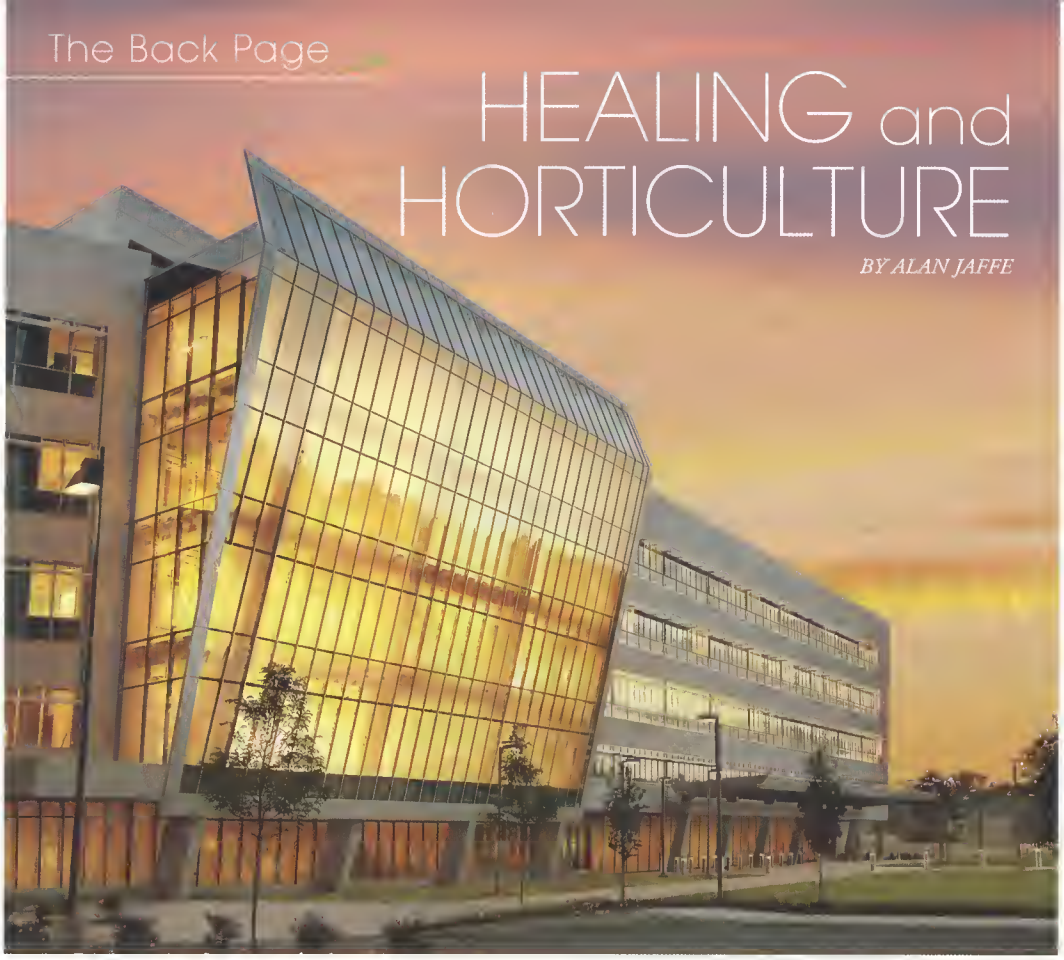
Pete Prown, Editor
pprown@pennhort.org

Additional reporting from Laura Brandt



HEALING and HORTICULTURE

BY ALAN JAFFE



Healing and environmental health go hand in hand through a new partnership forged by PHS and the Einstein Healthcare Network.

The two organizations first joined forces at the 2012 Philadelphia International Flower Show, when Einstein sponsored the popular Family Lounge. Soon afterwards, Einstein signed on as a Founding Sponsor of Plant One Million, the multi-state tree-planting project led by PHS and its partners in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware.

For PHS, receiving support from the distinguished healthcare network is a major step toward the goal of planting one million trees throughout our region. For Einstein, the partnership makes sense, since trees improve air and water quality, creating a healthier environment for everyone.

"Our expanding relationship with Einstein is a great example of how hospitals and nonprofit organizations can benefit by working together," says Jimmy Owens, director of the Plant One Million project at PHS. "This partnership will provide fantastic opportunities for our tree-planting effort."

This fall, Einstein will open a new campus in East Norriton, Montgomery County. The five-story complex on an 87-acre site will serve as a medical destination for the residents of the region. Einstein Medical Center Montgomery has been designed as an ideal environment for healing and exceptional patient experience. The grounds surrounding the hospital are being planted with hundreds of trees as well, including groves to be dedicated to staff and patients, and will offer views of the rolling Norristown Farm Park.

A "Community Day" for Einstein Medical Center Montgomery is being planned for September 22. PHS and Einstein will hold a subsequent "Plant One Million Day," which will include tree plantings at all Einstein network locations, with help from staff, patients, volunteers, and community members.

For more information, please visit *PHSonline.org.*

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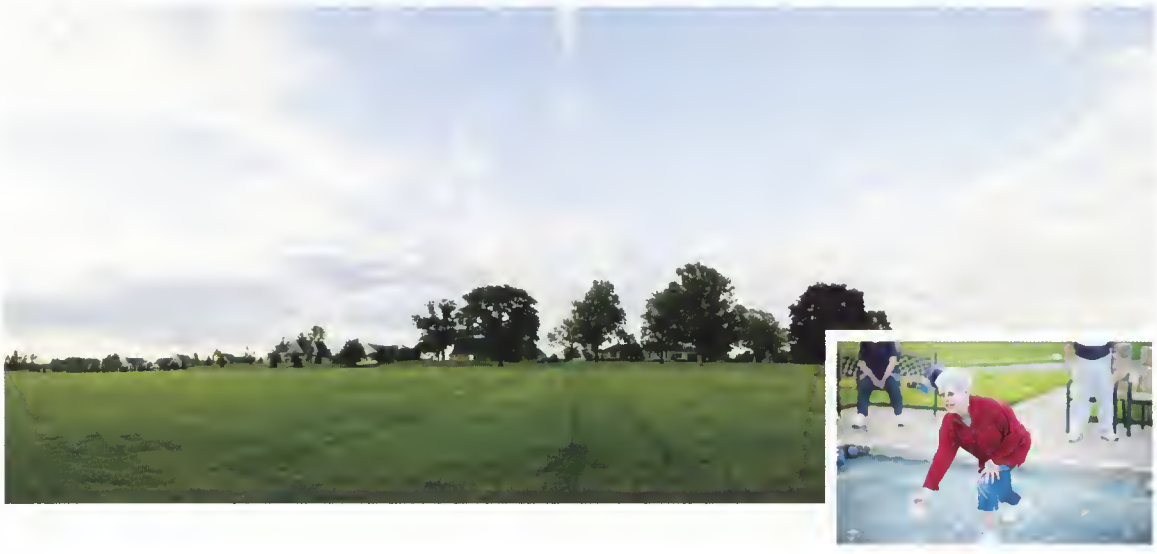


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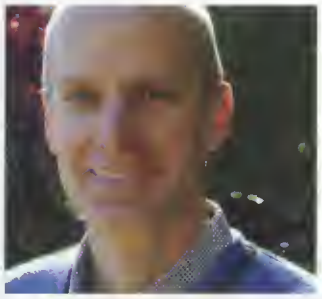
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In Pursuit of Paradise



LIKE MANY OF YOU, I like to travel—*a lot.* This past year, I've been to England twice (preparing for the 2013 PHS Philadelphia Flower Show, "Btilliant!"), Japan, and various garden points in the United States. One of my favorite journeys was to France, where I stayed in a castle and enjoyed the amazing countryside. Among the stops was Kerdalo, one of Europe's finest gardens, which I visited with gardener Jonathan Wright of Chanticleer, in Wayne, PA (*Jonathan's work was profiled in the May 2011 issue*).

Kerdalo was the passion of the late Prince Peter Wolkonsky, who started the garden in 1965. Today, his daughtet, Princess Isabelle, ensures that his legacy lives on. The tour begins at a spring, and guests follow the water's path into different garden rooms that ultimately lead to a tidal bay. Water is a key element at Kerdalo; the 30-acre property also features a lake, ponds, and grottos. It includes rustic landscapes as well as more fotmal gardens closer to the estate house. We only had about two hours to spend there, but I could have stayed all day.

As fantastic as the outing was, it only got better when Jonathan and I were chatting in the Kerdalo gift shop and were approached by an elegantly dressed woman who took note of our American accents. It was Princess Isabelle herself. When I introduced myself and my role with PHS, it was gratifying to hear that she was familiar with the Philadelphia Flower Show. The princess generously insisted that we follow her a few miles down the road to her private home gardens. We jumped at the chance. The gardens are a showroom of the tastes and talents of Isabelle, who trained at the RHS garden, Wisley. She and her husband, Timothy Vaughan, are dedicated horticulturists.

In awe of all we saw, I gently suggested bringing a group of PHS membets to the garden—an idea the princess received with enthusiasm. She even offered to host a lunch, which is a rare opportunity. Marking up my guide map with a big blue pen, the princess circled other gardens in the atea that she considers exceptional. Her personal favorites include Jardin Georges Delaselle, Domaine de Trévarez, and Jardins du Château de la Ballue.

Inspired by this experience, PHS is planning a trip to the gardens of Brittany in 2014. In the interim, check out our fabulous upcoming journeys in 2013 to India (January 11 to 25) and the British areas of Cambridge, Leicestershire, and Rutland with Jane Pepper (June 4 to 13). Learn mote by visiting *phsonline.org* or calling 215-988-8800.

Happy travels! ■



Drew Becher, PHS President

See photos of Kerdalo at *gardenvisit.com.*



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Senior Editor
Jane Carroll

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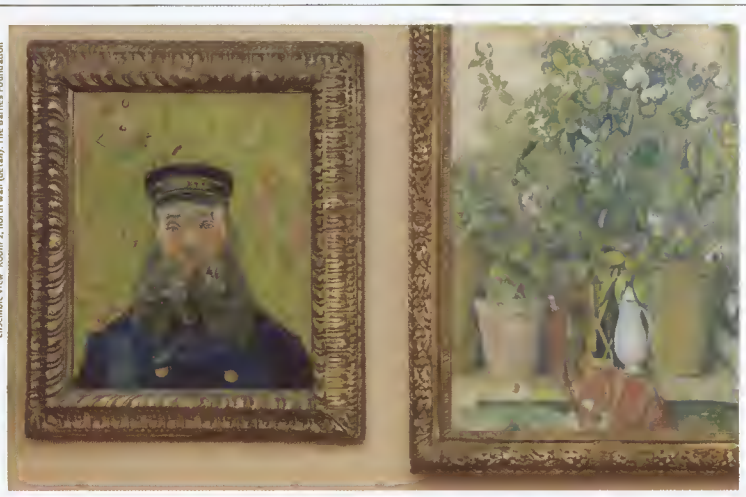
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Ensemble view, Room 2, north wall (detail), The Barnes Foundation

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ARRANGING FLOWERS



Floral design can be opulent and over-the-top or, as in this arrangement, quiet and reflective. There are a multitude of ideas, design schemes, and emotions that can be expressed through a thoughtfully arranged bundle of flowers. In this issue of *Green Scene*, we pay homage to this timeless art form.



Nancy Goldenberg Joins PHS as Senior Vice President for Programs and Planning



Nancy A. Goldenberg joined PHS as senior vice president for programs and planning in October. A long-time leader in Philadelphia city planning and park administration, Nancy most recently served as vice president of planning for the Center City District, a business improvement district that works to make Philadelphia's downtown more attractive and economically vibrant. She was responsible for managing CCD's strategic planning initiatives and many special projects, including the ongoing transformation of Dilworth Plaza at City Hall and the renovation of Sister Cities Park at Logan Square.

At PHS Nancy will be an integral member of the senior staff team, establishing the strategic direction and evaluation for PHS programs, including greening strategies, education initiatives, urban planning and policy, and design and capital investments.

"I have always admired PHS. I think the work that PHS does touches the lives of everyone—whether they know it or not," says Nancy, a Cincinnati, Ohio, native who now lives in Philadelphia's Mount Airy section. "This position offers the perfect combination to match my professional experience with my interests in the outdoors and in making things beautiful."

Nancy follows those interests at home through gardening. In fact, after accepting the PHS job, she tore out her garden with the aim of starting all over. "I'm looking forward to getting a lot of advice at PHS," she says.

TRAVEL WITH PHS

Gardens of Cambridge, Leicestershire, and Rutland

June 4–13, 2013

Join former PHS president Jane Pepper and other PHS members to visit England and see the gardens of Cambridge, Leicestershire, and Rutland next June. You'll enjoy the best of town and country in this part of England, as our tour guides, Ann and Colin Senior of Heritage Garden Tours, lead visits to a variety of exquisite public and private gardens, often with the opportunity to meet with the owners. Non-horticultural highlights include the Choral Evensong celebrated by the full King's College Choir in Cambridge. For a trip brochure, please contact Betsie Blodgett at *bblodgett@pennhort.org* or 215-988-8818, or visit the PHS website at *PHSoline.org*.





GET READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS WITH PHS WORKSHOPS

Look to PHS for holiday decorating ideas. Here are a few offerings; Details and additional programs are at *phsonline.org/calendar*. Register at *pennhort.net/eventregistration* or call 215-988-8800 for more information.

Thanksgiving Floral Designs

Monday, November 12, 11 am–12:30 pm
PHS McLean Library, 100 N. 20th Street, Philadelphia, PA

Floral designers Valerie McLaughlin, Susan Essick, and Patti Kelly will demonstrate how to make a hand-tied bouquet, a table arrangement, and a wreath using flowers, fruits, and nuts. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.

Holiday Wreath Making at the Barnes Arboretum

Monday, December 10, 10 am–12 pm
300 N. Latch's Lane, Merion, PA 19066

Decorate for the holidays and make a festive wreath, swag, or centerpiece for your home with instructors from the Barnes Arboretum. Fee: $55 PHS and Barnes Foundation members, $65 non-members.

More workshops. *Details: pennhort.net/calendar*

- Dec. 6. Wreath making with Eva Monheim at PHS Meadowbrook Farm in Abington Township
- Dec. 10. Fun with Holiday Flowers at PHS McLean Library
- Dec. 12. Holiday decorating with Mona Gold at the Kroc Center in Philadelphia

Chris Woods Joins PHS Meadowbrook Farm



Chris Woods joined PHS in September as director of PHS Meadowbrook Farm. A longtime friend of PHS who has been a consultant on Flower Show exhibits, Gold Medal plants, and other programs, Chris will focus on making Meadowbrook a showcase of excellent design and sustainable gardening and a destination for the best plants and products.

Chris began his horticultural career in England at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew and is best known in this region as former executive director and chief garden designer at Chanticleer, in Wayne, PA, where he was credited with establishing the site as one of the nation's top gardens. He has shaped many other North American landscapes, working at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, Ojai Valley Land Conservancy, VanDusen Botanical Garden in Vancouver, and Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens.

This year he will bring the British design perspective to the central feature of the 2013 Flower Show, "Brilliant!"

"I am delighted to be the director of PHS Meadowbrook Farm," says Chris. "The staff couldn't be more welcoming, and I am very impressed with their commitment to making this property one of the great gardens of North America. I am also thrilled to be part of the expanding PHS, an organization with a mission to look outward. These are very exciting days and I am honored to be part of it."

Now take Green Scene with you wherever you go with your iPad!



PHS now offers an **Apple iPad version** of the magazine in brilliant color! When each issue is published, all qualifying members will receive an email containing links to each version.

As a further step, you can help us save the planet and reduce our printing bill by contacting us to **opt out** of the paper version of *Green Scene*. Just send an email to *memserv@pennhort.org* and we'll take care of the rest.



PHS HIGHLIGHTS

Cool-Season Vegetable Gardening
Saturday, November 10, 10 am–12 pm
Meadowbrook Farm
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

It used to be that in autumn, gardeners focused on "putting the garden to bed." Not anymore. Vegetable gardeners are increasingly finding ways to keep growing and enjoying fresh food well into the colder months. Join us for a lecture by organic farmer Nicolas Esposito, who will talk about how to keep your vegetable garden producing even as winter sets in. He'll discuss cold frames, row covers, and types of crops that flourish in cooler weather.

Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members. Register at *pennhort.net/eventregistration* or call 215-988-8872 for more information.

Seasonal Walk: A Focus on Fall Color at the Barnes Arboretum
Wednesday, November 14, 1 pm
The Barnes Arboretum, 300 N. Latch's Lane, Merion, PA

Join us at the Arboretum of the Barnes Foundation, where horticultural staff will discuss the mechanics of fall color—why it happens, why different plants display different fall colors, the best plants for color in our region, and more. We'll take a walk through the arboretum and observe autumnal delights while discussing gardening activities for fall.

Limit: 20. Fee: $18 PHS and Barnes Foundation members, $23 non-members. Register at *pennhort.net/eventregistration*. See page 44 or call 215-988-8869 for more information.

See pages 42 through 47 for a full list of upcoming PHS programs.

The Surprising Life of Constance Spry

BY FRANCESCA NORTHRUP



A Fresh Biography of the Legendary Flower Arranger

Written by Sue Shephard, *The Surprising Life of Constance Spry* is a fascinating title for a book that is indeed surprising. I thought I knew something about this legendary flower arranger, but it turns out I had much to learn.

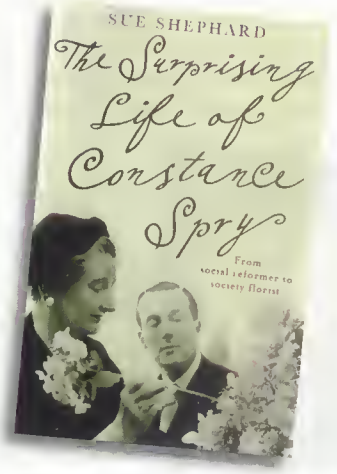
Constance Spry was born in 1886, a time when women were socially restricted by gender roles and the tedious rules of society. Hers, however, was a rags-to-riches tale that spanned eras of affluence and austerity, Edwardian fussiness, and new-found freedoms for English women. She started life in a small house behind a railway station and grew into British society's most successful "artist flower designer."

This flamboyant woman had an insatiable curiosity and a rollicking sense of humor. In short, Spry did exactly what she wanted to do and led a most unconventional life for this period—a life that included a failed marriage, divorce, co-habitation, adultery, a lesbian relationship, and plenty of high-society glamour. Along the way, she developed a rare combination of talents. Spry was a teacher, social reformer, gardener, writer (authoring 12 books, including ones on flower arranging, gardening, and a best-selling cookbook), a floral artist, lecturer, and stage designer. She was also the founder of a "cookery and flower arranging school" and owner of a huge London flower shop. By example, she demonstrated that women could overcome gender and class barriers.

Constance also revolutionized flower arranging. She pioneered the mixed arrangement, developed "mechanics" to support her huge creations, introduced color blocking, and recognized the potential of everyday items as interesting containers. She incorporated other materials into her arrangements such as grasses, seeds, pods, branches, fruits and vegetables, and most famously, common kale.

"Connie," as she was known by her friends and admirers, took on challenges great and small. She started out by designing gardens, then window displays for a perfumery, and quickly rose to prominence in the floral artistry world. She created designs for weddings, balls, theater sets, and major social events. High society made it clear: if an event was to be a success, Connie had to do the flowers and décor. She even did the flower designs for the wedding of her friends, the Duke and Duchess of Windsor (the book's accompanying photographs are intriguing). Later, not only did she plan all the flowers for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, but she also organized the post-coronation luncheon for 300 dignitaries from all over the world. (Those who have entered the Philadelphia Flower Show will appreciate the detailed planning and execution that went into her work.)

The book is a fun read and instills a new appreciation for "Connie," her innovative trail blazing, and, above all, her indomitable spirit. PHS members can borrow the book from the PHS McLean Library. ■



Something to Tweet About!

Register Your Bird-Friendly Garden with Audubon

BY LAURA BRANDT

Bird Town, a working partnership of the National Audubon Society and municipalities in Pennsylvania, helps promote conservation and community-based actions to create a more sustainable environment for birds and people. Steve Saffier, director of Audubon at Home, explains: "Our programs are not just about birds; they are about experiencing and connecting with nature. We have to battle what ecologist Robert Michael Pyle calls the 'extinction of experience,' which is not just the loss of an interaction with nature, it's the loss of the desire to interact with nature. As more people plug in, they tune out to real experiences and opt for those that are virtual. In the end, nature loses out."

So become a proud steward of nature in your own backyard by planting more native plants and providing food, shelter, and water for birds. By helping the birds, you'll be helping your community and our entire ecosystem.

For more information, visit *pa.audubon.org/bird-habitat-recognition-program.* ■







WASHINGTON, DC

It's always fun to visit our nation's capital in the fall and sample its vast cultural offerings. If you've already seen much of the Smithsonian and want to get off the beaten track, visit the Textile Museum for a botanically themed exhibit called "The Sultan's Garden: The Blossoming of Ottoman Art" (running through March 10, 2013).

Located a half mile from the Dupont Circle Metro station, this museum is currently offering an exhibition of flower-festooned fabrics and objects from the Ottoman Empire. *The Sultan's Garden* chronicles how stylized flowers came to embellish nearly all media produced by the Ottoman court beginning in the mid-16th century. Says curator Sumru Belger Krody, "In this period, a new decorative style emerged in the Ottoman court, built around stylized, but still recognizable, floral designs. The most popular blossoms are ones that any gardener might recognize—tulips, hyacinth, honeysuckles, and rosebuds—but these designs came to embellish nearly all media produced by the Ottoman court, and symbolize the power of the empire."

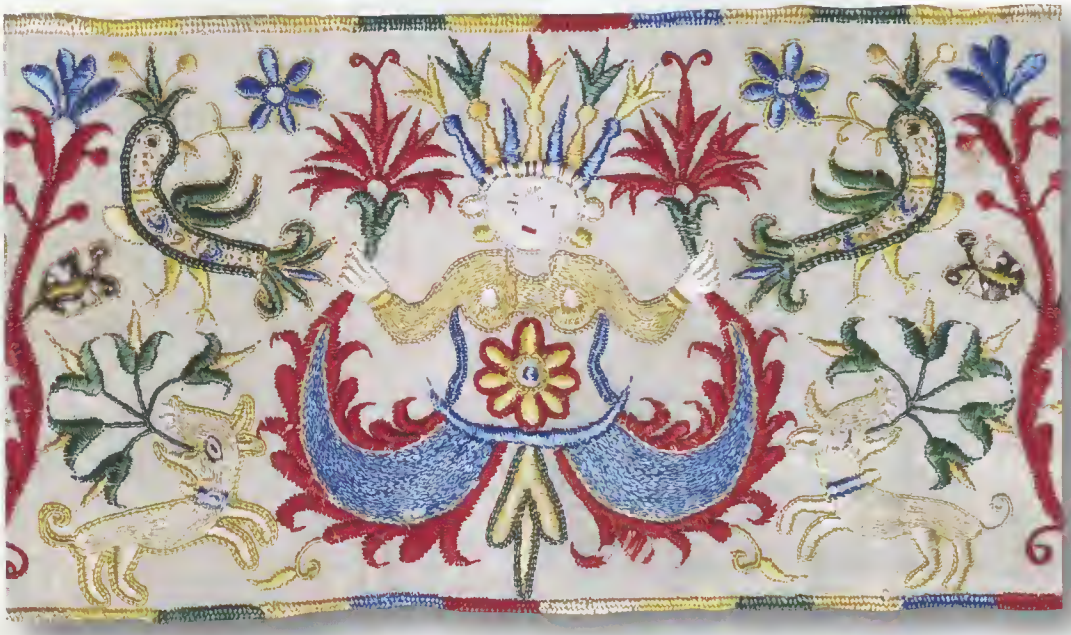
Interestingly, the development of this design identity can be attributed to a single artist, Kara Memi, working in the royal arts workshop of Istanbul. *The Sultan's Garden* unveils the influence of Ottoman floral style and traces its continuing impact through the textile arts—some of the most luxurious and technically complex productions of the Empire. Also look for a lecture at the museum by noted horticulturist Holly Shimizu on December 13th. ■





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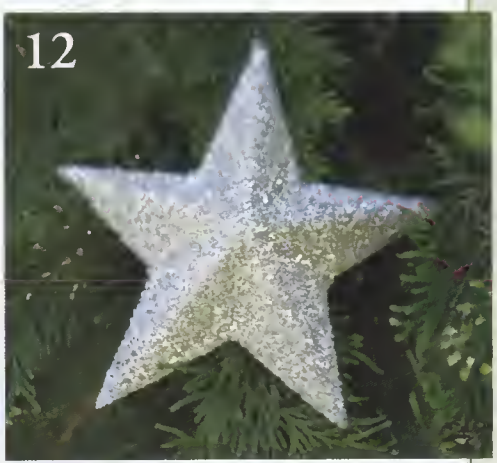


All items shown here are available from *shopPHS.org* or from PHS Meadowbrook Farm









Meadowbrook Farm is located at
1633 Washington Lane, Meadowbrook, PA
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Pansies

BY LAURA BRANDT

This Cool-Season Champ Gets a Makeover



It's ironic how calling someone a "pansy" implies weakness, while in truth, the insult references one of the toughest flowers in the plant universe. Bring on the cold temps, chilling rain, and even a little frost and light snow, and the pansy will shrug them off with ease. It's the tri-athlete of blossoms, its veritable Serena Williams or Michael Phelps. And further, what would our pots, borders, and beds be without this early biennial, often our first real shot of color in the garden?

Pansies grow in a wide range of sizes, patterns, and colors, including red, purple, blue, bronze, pink, yellow, white, lavender, orange, and even rarer shades like black and mahogany. They thrive in a sunny, well-drained area and are stupendously easy to grow. Add some slow-release fertilizer and pinch off the spent flower heads throughout the season to encourage re-blooming.

This fall, the breeders of the popular Wave petunia are introducing the Cool Wave™ pansy series with the same prolific spreading trait. The blooms will trail over the sides of containers and baskets and spread vigorously 24 to 30 inches. In our area, Cool Wave should return next spring after going dormant in winter. Colors include white, yellow, frost (cream-colored edged in lilac), and violet wing (bi-colored purple and white).

Who can resist? ■

Visit *wave-rave.com* for more information and to find a retail center in your area. Also visit PHS Meadowbrook Farm for more pansy choices.

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A WORLD OF



In every country around the world, people enjoy picking flowers and arranging them decoratively in vases, pots, and bowls. Here, we look at various design styles from around the globe. As you can see, each place has its own take on the art of arrangement, from flowers and materials to composition and containers. You can borrow ideas from these designs and use them in your own floral fantasies.

FLORAL DESIGN

BY JANE GODSHALK & CRES MOTZI, AIFD • PHOTOS BY TOM WEISHAAR



GREAT BRITAIN





PLANT LIST:

- Ivy (*Hedera helix*)
- Spruce (*Picea orientalis*)
- Holly fern (*Cyrtomium falcatum*)
- Privet berries (*Ligustrum ovalifolium*)
- Carnations (*Dianthus* sp.)

Designs by Jane Godshalk



British floral design influenced all of Europe during the Victorian era. Rare plants from all over the world became available, and gardening was a popular pastime. Arrangements included lush and exotic combinations of foliage, and fragrant garden roses almost always predominated. Containers were decorative and ornate, and the arrangements lush and opulent. The topiary form and two-tiered elevated designs were frequently used to fill high-ceilinged rooms.

Contemporary design in Great Britain, however, is very diverse and is influenced by all of Europe. A love of plants and gardening is apparent in the elegant arrangements of British floral designers such as Paula Pryke and Jane Packer.



Topiary Design (left)

The English yuletide carol "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is celebrated with a footed metal cache pot holding a traditional topiary with a diverse combination of greens. Privet berries, spruce, and bush ivy contrast with dark pink garden roses and hot pink spray roses. Silver pears and silver-gray ribbon give the topiary a holiday spirit.

Hand-Tied Bouquets (below)

All over Europe, including Great Britain, hand-tied bouquets are popular and are used for almost every occasion. Flowers, berries, and foliage are plentiful and available from many local sources. They are arranged on the spot in flower shops and outdoor markets. A traditional hand-tied bouquet fills a ceramic pot. Here, hydrangea, roses, brassica, and rose hips fill a vase with the traditional round form and subtle color and texture contrasts.

Learn more at
theflowershow.com



PLANT LIST:

- *Hydrangea macrophylla*
- *Rosa* 'Blizzard'
- Rose hips (*Rosa canina*)
- Cabbage

USA

Many influences of American floral design come from Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia. Flowers and foliage are mounded, and seasonal fruits, berries, and nuts were used when flowers were not available in winter seasons.

This design uses Williamsburg influences combined with the more modern American phoenix design, which has a circular form with branches or flowers rising from the center. Oak branches with acorns and camellia leaves rise from a rounded mass of magnolia, viburnum berries, celosia, and apples. During Colonial times, apples were used not for eating but for cider, which, when water was not always pure, was a good alternative for drinking. All of the flowers are long-lived "everlastings" and may dry attractively in the arrangement.


Jane Godshalk


Cres Motzi

PLANT LIST:
- Oak
- *Magnolia grandiflora*
- Apples
- *Camelia sinensis*
- *Celosia cristata*
- Viburnum berries (*Viburnum opulus*)
- Roses (*Rosa* 'Wanted')
- *Hydrangea macrophylla*



Design by Jane Godshalk

THAILAND



PLANT LIST:

- Standard and spray carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus*)
- Gloriosa lily (*Gloriosa superba* 'Rothschildana')
- Mokara orchid (*Mokara* 'Nora')
- Rosa 'Orange Unique'
- Cast-iron plant (*Aspidistra elatior*)

Design by Cres Motzi

This design was inspired by the vibrantly colored and intricately patterned garlands that are used for religious and everyday life in Thailand. Blessed with a tropical climate and fertile soil, this Southeast Asian nation has a bounty of vibrant and beautiful plants, and flowers are an integral part of everyday life. Thais make garlands by threading leaves and flowers together and placing them on ornate stands for temples and shrines. Flowers are also worn in the hair, while leis are worn for special occasions and are given as gifts.

To get started, soak a brick of Oasis floral foam and place it on its end in a small design dish made by Lomey. Tape it down securely. Put the flowers down in bands and let several strands of spray carnation leis cascade down the side.



FRANCE

This arrangement was inspired by Marie Françoise Déprez, whose floral art is graphic, expressive, beautiful, tactile, structural, intricate, technical, playful, and original.

A heatproof vase and Styrofoam sphere were covered with melted wax (follow manufacturer's instructions to ensure safety). Aspidistra leaves were folded in half and stapled. The stapled leaves were then grouped in a fan shape and tied. *Chamaecyparis* and small pinecones were wound together in a chain.

PLANT LIST:

- Moth orchid (*Phalaenopsis* hybrid)
- Cast Iron plant (*Aspidistra elatior*)
- Leyland Cypress (*Chamaecyparis* s.)

Design by Cre Motzi

AFRICA



PLANT LIST:

- *Manzinita* branch
- Dried *Cercropia*
- *Amaryllis*
- Wool from Teasdale sheep

Designs by Jane Godshalk





Africa is a land of contrasts—the bright colors of flowers, fabrics, birds, and beads standing out against some of the continent's starkest landscapes. Think of rough and parched deserts with thorny trees, gray green foliage, and an astounding variety of wildlife. Emmie Pabst, a South African floral designer who combines all these concepts, says, "There is a never-ending striving toward the attainment of the most original and elusive ideas in imaginative design."

Here we have two designs that depict African elements. One refers to the desert and its windblown and bleak conditions. Texture and pattern predominate, while wool represents animal hardships in this environment. Among the symbols and colors we included in the design below are black and white sticks, which is a Zulu tribal motif. African cloth or *kente* folds through the design along with the Pan-African flag colors of black, red, and green.



PLANT LIST:

- *Dianthus* 'Green Trick'
- Red anthurium (*Anthurium andraeanum*)
- Orange pincushion protea (*Leucospermum*)
- Garlic (*Allium sativum*)
- Red pepper (*Capsicum*)
- *Alocasia*



GERMANY



PLANT LIST:

- Masterwort (*Astrantia major*)
- Blackberry lily (*Belamcanda chinensis*)
- Lisianthus (*Eustoma russellianum*)
- Freesia
- St. John's Wort (*Hypericum* hybrid)
- Rosa 'Polo'
- Cedar (*Chamaecyparis* sp.)
- Smilax

Design by Cres Motzi



Germany's Gregor Lersch is a floral artist extraordinaire. He's a master technician, expert teacher, and author, and his designs are very natural and make you feel like you're in the garden. For techniques in this design, inspired by Lersch, dark annealed wires were cut to desired lengths and inserted into pre-drilled holes in a wood disk. Holders for votive candles were constructed with the same wires, while water tubes were placed between them to hold flowers. ■

Beautiful Bouquets of *Winter*

STORY BY [illegible] VANDT
PHOTOS BY [illegible] ARDILLO

These simple and elegant displays will last all season outdoors.





Your beloved plant containers don't have to stay empty when frost hits in late autumn. Instead, think of winter as a bonus season where texture becomes as important as color. Better yet, you don't necessarily need fancy plants or materials. You can plan for winter containers and bouquets by growing these favorites on your property: red twig dogwood (*Cornus sericea* sp.), various hollies (*Ilex* sp.), and evergreens. Cutting and arranging the branches of these three plants will brighten your doorway, mantle, and window boxes throughout the wintet months. If you don't grow these plants yourself, visit your local nursery for materials.

Rob Cardillo/Terrain at Styers



Rob Cardillo/Longwood Gardens

PHS's Meadowbrook Farm in Abington Township, PA, offers many plants and decorative materials for winter container gardening. This season they'll offer Douglas fir, incense cedar, white pine, boxwood, evergreen holly, winterberry holly, curly willow, various seed pods, red twig dogwood stems, and birch branches. "Meadowbrook offers a variety of containers, seasonal plants, and giftware," says merchandising manager Lisa Baxter. "We harvest greens right off of our property. You can also find pre-made arrangements with touches of berries, seed pods, pine cones, ribbon, and other textural items."

Red twig dogwood (a.k.a. red osier dogwood) is a native shrub that thrives in our area. Its bright red stems dazzle the eye in winter, especially against a snowy landscape. It is a favorite in winter arrangements. "I love to mix three or four different greens such as pine, blue spruce, Douglas fir and magnolia leaves," Lisa continues. "To this, I may add ribbon and a few berries for a bright touch. This simple and elegant display will last all season outdoors. If you are using greens inside, just make sure they are fresh, and they will last all winter."

One of the benefits of sticking these twigs in the soil of containers is that most of the stems will root over the winter. In spring, as the weather warms, you will see the twigs sprout leaves. At this time, uproot them and plant them in your garden. "I love to see red twig dogwood with white pine spilling out of urns on either side of an entryway," says Lisa. "You can even add a bow or silver balls for holiday cheer." ■



Rob Cardillo/Terrain at Styers

SPECIAL EVENT

PHS Meadowbrook Farm offers assorted garland cut to size, miniature boxwood trees, and balled-and-burlapped evergreen trees. On Thursday, December 6, at 6 pm, have fun creating your own holiday wreath at a workshop at Meadowbrook Farm. Register at *pennhort.net/eventregistration*.

See page 44 for more information.





Photo © 2012 David E. Perry

SLOW FLOWERS

BY JESSIE KEITH

IN THE COMMERCIAL CUT-FLOWER INDUSTRY, it's not easy being green. Most cut flowers are laden with pesticides, largely because the estimated $40-billion-a-year industry demands floral perfection, and some of its powerhouses (like roses) are especially susceptible to pests and diseases.

To complicate matters, most commercial flowers travel hundreds and thousands of "flower miles" from field to international flower market to wholesaler to store. Today, however, natural beauties are gaining attention and challenging the status quo. An influx of eco-conscious growers and designers are embracing the so-called Slow Flower Movement—aided by a suite of savvy wtiters and other advocates furthering their cause.

It's safe to say that Amy Stewart brought the concept of the "socially responsible cut flower" to public attention through her engaging New York Times bestseller on the international flower industry, *Flower Confidential* (Algonquin Books, 2007). And her message of awareness resonates even more as the Slow Flower Movement gains ground. "Thete are a lot of reasons to buy local when it comes to flowers," Amy tells us. "You get something really fresh, seasonal, and delicate." A point further explored in Debra Prinzing's beautifully photographed, insightful book *The 50 Mile Bouquet* (St. Lynn's Press, 2012). When asked why she wrote the book, Debra said, "As I met and interviewed domestic flower farmers and eco-conscious floral designers, I discovered the beginnings of a cultural shift to local, seasonal, and sustainable flowers. This book strives to put a face on the flower farmer and help consumers make a connection between growers and flowers they bring into their homes."

And connecting the public with local flowers is most easily done through the Association of Specialty Cut Flower Growers (ASCFG) an organization founded in 1988 to help consumers find local growers. Polly Hutchison, flower

farmer and current president of the ASCFG, says, "As an organization we don't referee organic status, but we encourage good land stewardship, sustainable practices, and connecting the public with local growers; it pays to know your grower, and this relationship is best forged locally."

Pennsylvania has a good share of pioneering local cut-flower purveyors—most in and around metropolitan areas where demand is greatest. Successful, small-scale growers are many and they supply farmers markets and shops statewide, but of these, a few have built blossoming businesses that are truly extraordinary.

Jennie Love, of Love N' Fresh Flowers, is one of the more remarkable PA pioneers. She has the rare pleasure of running a three-acre flower farm in Upper Roxborough, just within Philadelphia city limits. In only five years it has blossomed into a 90-hour-a-week endeavor that keeps growing. This is due to her beautiful fresh-from-the-field flowers and unique, elegant arrangements that are wholly seasonal and sustainably grown. She offers a complete "seed to centerpiece" package, and despite being a gifted floral designer, she considers herself a flower farmer at heart. "I grew up on a central Pennsylvania farm; it's in my blood," she says.



Organic ranunculus from Love N' Fresh Flowers in Philadelphia

The rigors of urban flower farming keep Jennie busy from dawn to dusk. "Growing local, organic flowers is hard work!" she says. This is something Kate Sparks, of the Doylestown design-grow flower farm Lilies and Lavender can equally attest to: "I've had four acres in production for the past 15 years—for such a small farm it's a huge effort but worth it. I wouldn't want more acreage; it's easier to control pests and problems when you're small. Still it has its challenges."

Both Jennie and Kate cite lack of public awareness regarding the value of local flowers as a problem. "There's a reverse mentality about our flowers. Most think they should be cheap, but they're actually more costly," Jennie says. "With the Slow Flower Movement taking hold, I hope perception will change. It's hard competing with low-priced imports that are loaded with pesticides but pretty."

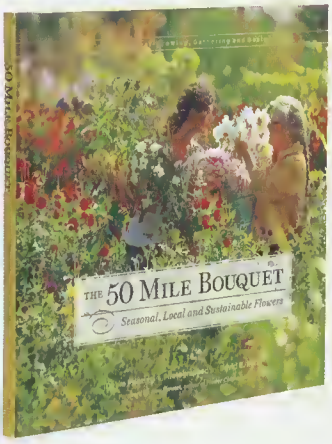
As public awareness increases, they reckon, the beauty, diversity, seasonality, and longevity of "green" cut flowers should sell themselves. In addition to being earth-friendly, they last longer, and small growers can take more creative license with diverse, more exciting floral choices. They also come without the baggage of imported flowers. According to Kate Stewart, "Flowers coming from a long way away require constant refrigeration to stay fresh. That is a very high energy cost." And, Kate Sparks says, "Even out-of-country organics are not organic. Imported organic flowers are sprayed with chemicals before entering the country to keep potential pests out, making them fumigated flowers."

Pesticides are the greatest problem with roses, which make up around 30 percent of all US flower sales (SOURCE: US International Trade Commission), and are the most energy-intensive, pesticide-laden blooms of the bunch. Thankfully, Debra says eco-conscious growers are making headway here, too. "A handful of domestic rose growers around the country produce beautiful American roses and strive to be sustainable," says Debra. "If consumers start asking their florists and retailers for American-grown roses, the demand can be met."

So if there's a market, there's a way. Ultimately, public demand, driven by greater awareness, will power the Slow Flower Movement to keep naturally beautiful flowers decorating our life events and making us happier. As Polly Hutchison puts it, "Local, sustainable flowers are gratifying and better for us all." ■

RESOURCES

- **Love N' Fresh Flowers**
 lovenfreshflowers.com
- **Lilies and Lavender**
 liliesandlavender.com
- **Red Earth Farm**
 redearthfarm.org
- **greenSinner**
 greensinner.com



KEEP IT CLOSE



At Talula's Garden, It's all about local food

BY LAURA BEITMAN HOOVER
PHOTOS BY FELICIA PERRETTI

Every Other MORNING,

Aimee Olexy climbs into her aging station wagon and stops to pick up at least 10 boxes of fresh-packed exotic mushrooms on her way to work. That's not unusual for the West Chester native and co-owner of Talula's Garden, the popular restaurant in Washington Square. Aimee grew up in a family that often picked their own fruit and were nourished on simple whole-

Aimee Olexy in the restaurant's outdoor eating space.



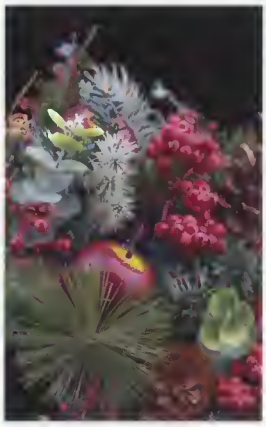
some food, often from their own garden. "We would also stop at every farm stand we ran across, no matter what time of the year. That's just how we shopped," Aimee says with a smile.

This philosophy was poured into the 175-seat restaurant, Talula's Garden, Olexy's collaboration with Philly restaurateur Stephen Starr. Opened in 2011, the eatery features all locally sourced food, including meat, cheese, seasonally inspired cocktails and even Lancaster County flowers. "I keep it local in everything we do. It doesn't make sense to have flowers imported from the Netherlands when we're using local butter," she says.

To achieve Talula'a culinary goals, Olexy uses a range of vendors, from a grower of fresh figs at a farm three doors away to larger food producers in the region. "Whether it's lamb, honey, ground beef, or eggs, working with local farmers is just plain good economics, as well good for relationships," Aimee adds. "We aim to showcase the flavor of our ingredients. Local food doesn't need as much salt or butter, and the food is not overly presented or contrived. Our philosophy is simple: cook fresh from good sources." ■

Talula's Garden, 210 W. Washington Square, Philadelphia, 215-592-7787, *talulasgarden.com*





PHS Programs & Events

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Reservations are required for all PHS education programs. **Save time and register online at *pennhort.net/eventregistration.***

To take advantage of member pricing when registering online, you must create a PHS user account on our website. In addition to receiving special member pricing, a user account lets you update your contact information, access your giving history, indicate your interests, and renew your membership all in one convenient place! New user accounts may take up to 24 hours to be activated. If you have not already done so, create a user account by visiting *pennhort.net/myaccount.*

You may also fill out the reservation form below and mail to: PHS, Attn: Education Programs, 100 N. 20th St., 5th floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1495. You may register by phone by calling the telephone number listed for each program.

Confirmations will be sent for all events except Garden Visits and Brown-Bag Lunches. Your confirmation will serve as your ticket for events. Travel directions will be included when appropriate. If a program is filled, we will add your name to the wait list, and we will call you if space becomes available. No payment is required to be placed on the wait list.

Refunds and Cancellations: Cancellations must be received at least five business days before the event. No refund if fewer than five days. PHS retains a $5 cancellation fee.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS REGISTRATION FORM

Mail to: PHS, Attn: Education Programs, 100 North 20th Street, 5th floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1495

Program	Date	Fee	No. of persons	Cost
			Total Fee:	$

Name:_____ Member ID#:_____

Name of guest (if any):_____

Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Telephone:_____ Email_____

Method of Payment: ❒ Check enclosed OR Charge my ❒ VISA ❒ MasterCard ❒ American Express

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Donation amount: _____ (select payment method above).

Look for these initials to find programs at PHS education hubs.

PHS (PHS)
100 N. 20th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

PHS Meadowbrook Farm (MBF)
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Arboretum of the Barnes Foundation (BA)
300 North Latch's Lane
Merion, PA 19066

Chanticleer (CH)*
786 Church Road
Wayne, PA 19087

Hortulus Farm Nursery & Gardens (HORT)*
62 Thompson Mill Road
Wrightstown, PA 18940

Salvation Army Kroc Center of Philadelphia (KROC)
4200 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19129

**Note: There are no programs at Chanticleer or Hortulus during November, December, and January.*



PHS Holiday Pop Up Store!

Month of December, dates and hours to be announced
8232 Germantown Ave.
Philadelphia, PA

PHS pops up with a fun and fabulous shopping experience in Philadelphia's Chestnut Hill shopping district during December. Enjoy a truly merry holiday experience in this quaint Victorian village setting, which includes Charles Dickens-themed performances and activities. Visit *PHSonline.org* for dates and hours, as well as announcements about special events and merchandise at our Holiday Pop Up Store.

NOVEMBER

Stories From the Garden: PHS McLean Library Book Discussion Group

Thursday, November 1, 5:45–7:45 pm
PHS McLean Library (PHS)
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

The group meets monthly on the first Thursday, October through June (skipping March for the Flower Show). Join us in reading and discussing works of fiction or non-fiction having to do with gardening, plants, nature or the land. Participants need to obtain and read each month's selection prior to the meeting. Free, but pre-registration is required. **Please contact Priscilla Becroft at *pbecroft@pennhort.org* or 215-988-8772 to register.** This month's selection: Audur Ava Olafsdotur, *The Greenhouse*.

Artistic Workshop—Designing for the PHS Philadelphia Flower Show

Saturday, November 3, 10 am–12 pm
Cinnaminson Library
1619 Riverton Rd.
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

This workshop and demonstration will provide everything you need to know to exhibit in the arrangement classes at the PHS Philadelphia Flower Show. The entry process, timeline, design types, and staging will be discussed in an informal setting with the opportunity to ask every question you may have. **Information: 215-988-8826 or *bgreene@pennhort.org*. Free. No registration required.**

Story Time in the PHS McLean Library

Wednesday, November 7, 10:30–11:30 am
PHS McLean Library (PHS)
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Young children will learn about gardening and the natural world through books read by story teller Hasha Salaman. For children ages 3 to 6 accompanied by an adult. **Information: 215-988-8772. Free.**

Get Involved in Plant One Million!

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, Nov. 9–11
Various Locations

Help make our region healthier and more beautiful by planting trees! The Plant One Million partnership is working with volunteers to plant one million trees throughout the Greater Philadelphia Region. Thousands of trees will be planted this fall in southeastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Deloware. For more information, visit *plantonemillion.org*.

Cool-Season Vegetable Gardening

Saturday, November 10, 10 am–12 pm
Meadowbrook Farm (MBF)
1633 Washington Lone
Abington Township, PA 19046

Organic farmer **Nicolos Esposito** will talk about how to keep your vegetable garden producing as winter sets in. He'll discuss cold frames, row covers, and types of crops that flourish in cooler weather. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Hostess with the Mostess Event

Saturday, November 10, 8 am–5 pm
Meadowbrook Farm (MBF)
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Tonwship, PA 19046

Shop PHS Meadowbrook Farm to find everything you need to be a great host or hostess during the upcoming holidays. You'll find design ideas for holiday tabletops, gorgeous gifts, and home décor during this one-day event. Enjoy tastings, demos, and more. To make the day extra special, shoppers will receive 10% off their entire order; PHS members receive 20% off (some restrictions apply), along with special members-only offers. *Visit meadowbrookfarm.org for details.*

Thanksgiving Floral Designs
Monday, November 12, 11 am–12:30 pm
PHS McLean Library **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Floral designers **Volerie McLoughlin, Suson Essick,** and **Potti Kelly** will demonstrate how to make a hand-tied bouquet, a table arrangement, and a wreath, using flowers, fruit, and nuts. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

McLean Library Lunchtime Short Story Group
Wednesday, November 14, 12–1:30 pm
PHS McLean Library **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

The PHS McLean Library's daytime short story group meets October through June (skipping March for the Flower Show). Join us in reading and discussing short stories with gardening or nature themes. Participants need to obtain and read each selection prior to the meeting. Free, but pre-registration is required. **Contact Priscilla Becroft at *pbecroft@pennhort.org* or 215-988-8772 to register.** This month's selection: William Maxwell, "The Gardens of Mont-Saint-Michel."

Seasonal Walk: A Focus on Fall Color
Wednesday, November 14, 1–2:30 pm
Arboretum of the Barnes Foundation **(BA)**
300 North Latch's Lane
Merion, PA 19066



Barnes horticultural staff will discuss the mechanics of fall color, why it happens, why different plants display different fall colors, what weather conditions are needed for the best fall display, and what plants have the best fall color potential for our region. In our garden walk-through we will observe other autumnal delights, and discuss what you should be doing at this time of the year in your own garden. **Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 20. Fee: $18 PHS and Barnes Foundation members, $23 non-members.**

Terrariums: Landscapes Under Glass
Wednesday, November 14, 6–7:30 pm
Salvation Army Kroc Center **(KROC)**
4200 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19129

Terrariums are wonderful, magical environments. Horticulturist **Lori Hoyes** will provide easy-to-follow instruction on plant selection, containers, and how to create and maintain a garden under glass. **Information: 215-988-8872. Free, but registration is required.**

The Art of Bonsai
Saturday, November 17, 10 am–12 pm
Meadowbrook Farm **(MBF)**
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Meadowbrook horticulturist **Bernard Pettit** will inspire you to try your hand at this ancient art. He'll discuss basic bonsai principles such as intent, design, tools, and techniques, as well as offer tips from professionals. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Philadelphia Community Farming Collaborative On-Farm Field Days
Crop Planning 101
November 28, 6 pm
PHS **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Co-sponsored by PHS and partner organizations and held at various locations in Philadelphia, these "beginning farmer workshops" are designed to build on one another. This date's topic: Crop Planning 101. **Information 215-988-8885. Free.**

DECEMBER

Story Time in the PHS McLean Library
Wednesday, December 5, 10:30-11:30 am
PHS McLean Library **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
See November 7 for details.

Stories from the Garden: PHS McLean Library Book Discussion Group
Thursday, December 6, 5:45-7:45 pm
PHS McLean Library **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

This month's selection Horton Foote, *Dividing the Estate* (play).
See November 1 for details.

Holiday Wreath Decorating
Thursday, December 6, 6–8 pm
Meadowbrook Farm **(MBF)**
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

In this hands-on session led by horticultural educator **Evo Monheim**, we will

Save the Date!

Holiday Happenings at PHS Meadowbrook Farm

Shop PHS Meadowbrook Farm for the holidays and enjoy seasonal fun on four Saturdays in December from 10 am to 2 pm. Come for a free demo on hanging terrariums, be inspired by holiday swag designs, and swing by for a visit with Santa! Visit *meadowbrookfarm.org* for dates and details!

decorate an evergreen wreath with natural materials, greens, pine cones, seed pods, and beautiful bows. You may bring elements to customize your own wreath. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $45 members, $55 non-members.**

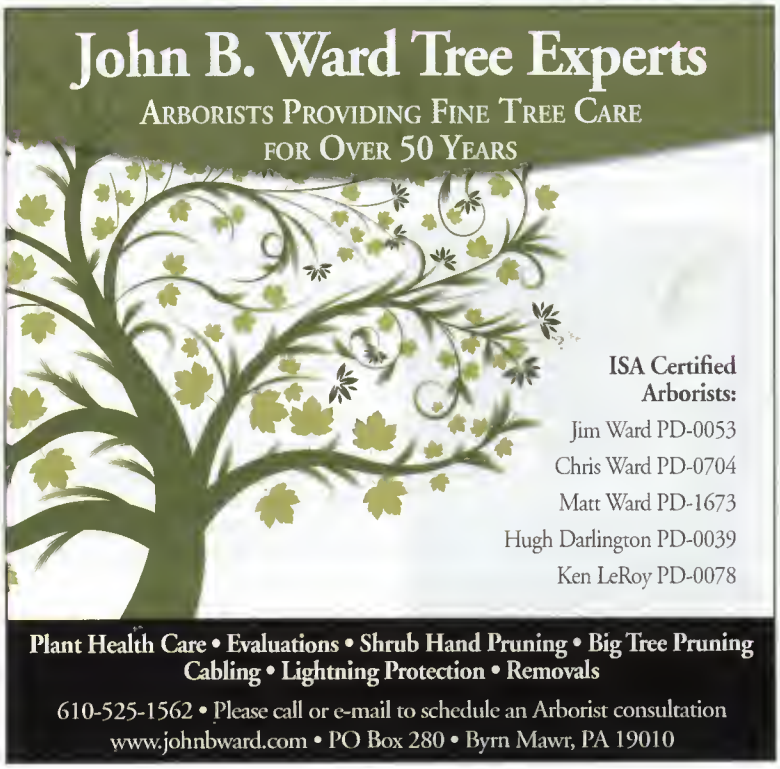
Workshop: Holiday Wreath Making

Monday, December 10, 10 am–12 pm
Arboretum of the Barnes Foundation **(BA)**
300 North Latch's Lane
Merion, PA 19066

Decorate your home for the holidays with a festive wreath, swag, or centerpiece. Instructors from the Barnes Arboretum will help you build a base of evergreens, add texture with twigs, fruit, berries, pinecones, and other natural materials, and finish with ribbons. Hang your creation on the front door or mantle for a long-lasting and fragrant addition to your seasonal décor. Bring pruning shears and gardening gloves. **Information: 215-988-8869. Limit: 20. Fee: $55 PHS and Barnes Foundation members, $65 non-members.**







Fun with Holiday Flowers
Monday, December 10, 11 am–12:30 pm
PHS McLean Library **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Valerie McLaughlin, **Susan Essick**, and **Patti Kelly** share ideas and demonstrate how to make a fresh flower Christmas tree, magnolia wreath, and a centerpiece for your holiday table. **Infarmatian: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 nan-members.**

McLean Library Lunchtime Short Story Group
Wednesday, December 12, 12–1:30 pm
PHS McLean Library **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

This month's selection: Andrea Barrett, "Theories of Rain." *See November 14 for details.*

Holiday Decorating—Naturally
Wednesday, December 12, 6-7:30 pm
Salvation Army Kroc Center **(KROC)**
4200 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19129

Using a variety of materials, horticultural therapist **Mana Gald** provides tips and ideas on how to enhance your holiday celebrations. **Infarmatian: 215-988-8872. Free, but pre-registration is required.**



JANUARY

Stories from the Garden: PHS McLean Library Book Discussion Group
Thursday, January 3, 5:45–7:45 pm
PHS McLean Library **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

John Steinbeck, "The Chrysanthemums" (short story). *See November 1 for details.*

Workshop: Watercolor Meets Colored Pencil
Two Tuesdays: Jan. 8 & 15, 10 am–3 pm
PHS **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Join **Eileen Rosen** for an enjoyable painting experience that combines two very different mediums: watercolor and waxed-based colored pencils. You will start with a flat, simple watercolor under-painting and then add layers with colored pencils, with vibrant and life-like results. Step-by-step demonstration and individual instruction provided. No experience necessary. A supply list will be sent with registration confirmation. Instruction will be based on individual needs, and beginners are welcome! **Informatian: 215-988-8869. Fee: $90 members, $100 nan-members. Limit: 15.**

Story Time in the PHS McLean Library
Wednesday, January 9, 10:30–11:30 am
PHS McLean Library **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

See November 7 for details.

McLean Library Lunchtime Short Story Group
Wednesday, January 9, 12–1:30 pm
PHS McLean Library **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

This month's selection: Jane Stevenson, "Garden Guerillas" (novella). *See November 14 for details.*

PHS Tree Tenders® at Lunch
Thursdays, Jan. 10–Feb. 28, 12–1 pm
PHS **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Learn about trees at convenient lunchtime workshops! Take one workshop or the whole series. This program offers hands-on tree care education for residents of the five-county Philadelphia region. The course covers tree biology, identification, planting, proper care, and working within your community. ISA, PA LA, Act 48 and PLNA credits are available. This course is not appropriate for children under 16. **Infarmation: 215-988-8845. Fee: $25 far eight-part series ar $5 per class at the door.**

Dates and Tapics:

Jan. 10	Overview, Benefits of Trees, Tree Biology
Jan. 17	Urban Stresses on Trees
Jan. 24	Tree Planting
Jan. 31	Tree ID
Feb. 7	Tree Care
Feb. 14	Trees and Watersheds, and the Emerald Ash Borer
Feb. 21	Organizing a Community Tree Planting
Feb. 28	Presentation by Tree Tender Partners: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation, Philly Tree Map, Plant One Million, US Forest Service, PHS McLean Library

Terrarium Workshop
Saturday, January 12, 10–12 pm
Meadowbrook Farm **(MBF)**
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

What could be better than brightening your home with a lush, green, miniature world under glass? Meadowbrook Farm's **Brandan Huber** offers easy-to-follow instruction on designing, selecting plants and containers, and maintenance so you can create your own terrarium. Bring your own container, or purchase one at the program. Soil, moss, and an assortment of small plants suitable for terrariums will be provided. **Infarmatian: 215-988-8872. Fee: $45 members, $55 nan-members.**

Artistic Workshop: True Colors—Show Yours

Saturday, January 12, 10 am–12 pm
Penllyn Woods Park Community Building
Township Line Rd. & Blue Bell-Penllyn Pike
(Directions: *lowergwynedd.org*)
Penllyn, PA 19422

The use of color in the art and design of flower arranging will be presented by **Priscilla-Gene W. Shaffer**, BA, ART, an adjunct instructor at Temple University Ambler. You also will hear from advisors for the PHS Philadelphia Flower Show arrangement classes, who provide valuable support throughout the design process. **Information: 215-988-8826 or *bgreene@pennhort.org*. Free.**

Artistic Workshop—The Latest in Design Trends

Wednesday, January 16, 10 am–12 pm
Penllyn Woods Park Community Building
Township Line Rd. & Blue Bell-Penllyn Pike
(Directions: *lowergwynedd.org*)
Penllyn, PA 19422

Donna O'Brien, owner and creative director of Beautiful Blooms, based in Philadelphia, will present current trends in floral design. Donna is an inspiring designer and an award-winning exhibitor at the PHS Philadelphia Flower Show.
Information: 215-988-8826 or *bgreene@pennhort.org*. Free.

Planning the Spring Garden

Wednesday, January 16, 6–7:30 pm
Salvation Army Kroc Center **(KROC)**
4200 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19129

After a long, dreary winter, gardeners are eager to start dreaming about their spring gardens. Rodale Institute experts will cover the important stages of starting your garden. Learn about garden planning, selecting plants, and starting seeds. Basic plant care and available resources will also be covered to help you enjoy a bountiful growing season and summer harvest. **Information: 215-988-8872. Free, but pre-registration is required.**

Artistic Workshop—Hidden Assets and Covering Your Tracks

Saturday, January 19, 10 am–12 pm
Penllyn Woods Park Community Building
Township Line Rd. & Blue Bell-Penllyn Pike (Directions: *lowergwynedd.org*)
Penllyn, PA 19422

Tricks of the trade for backgrounds, lighting, pedestals, and all arrangement staging for the PHS Philadelphia Flower Show will be discussed. Meet the artistic passers—your best friends at the Show! **Information: 215-988-8826 or *bgreene@pennhort.org*. Free.**

Free Lecture Series: How Plants Work—Topics in Practical Plant Physiology for Gardeners

Six sessions: Tuesday, Jan. 22; five Mondays: Jan. 28–Feb. 25, 6:30–7:30 pm
Co-sponsored by PHS and the Wagner Free Institute of Science
PHS **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Knowing how plants work leads to a better appreciation for their complexity and how to meet their needs. Taught by **Karen Snetselaar**, professor biology at Saint Joseph's University, this course focuses on key topics in plant physiology. We'll see how plant structure and growth is influenced by the transport of water and minerals and learn about the ability of plants to make many other required chemical compounds. Lectures include photographs and animations to make the dynamic aspects of plant growth easier to understand. Each session will begin with an optional quiz over material covered the previous week. Free, but pre-registration is required. Registered students will receive a syllabus with reading list as part of their registration acknowledgement. **To register, visit *wagnerfreeinstitute.org/adulteducation* or call 215-763-6529 ext. 13.**

Garden Tool Time

Saturday, January 26, 10–12 pm
Meadowbrook Farm **(MBF)**
1633 Washington Lane
Abington Township, PA 19046

Meadowbrook Farm horticulturist **Tom Reber** will demonstrate how, with proper maintenance and a little extra effort, your tools can last longer and be effective for many years to come. **Information: 215-988-8872. Fee: $18 members, $23 non-members.**

Artistic Workshop—Hats: Getting It Together

Saturday, January 26, 10 am–12 pm
Penllyn Woods Park Community Building
Township Line Rd. & Blue Bell-Penllyn Pike
(Directions: *lowergwynedd.org*)
Penllyn, PA 19422

This workshop covers guidelines for creating a hat made of fresh and/or dried plant material for the PHS Philadelphia Flower Show. We will also review the judging process—how do judges make the tough decisions? **Information: 215-988-8826 or *bgreene@pennhort.org*. Free.**

PHS Tree Tenders® Training

Two Saturdays: January 19 & 26,
8:30 am–1 pm
PHS **(PHS)**
100 N. 20th St.
Philadelphia PA 19103

Learn to plant and care for trees in your community. This program offers hands-on tree care education for residents of the five-county Philadelphia region. The nine-hour course covers tree biology, identification, planting, proper care, and working within your community. ISA, PA LA, Act 48 and PLNA credits are available. This course is not appropriate for children under 16. **Information: 215-988-8845. Fee: $25.**

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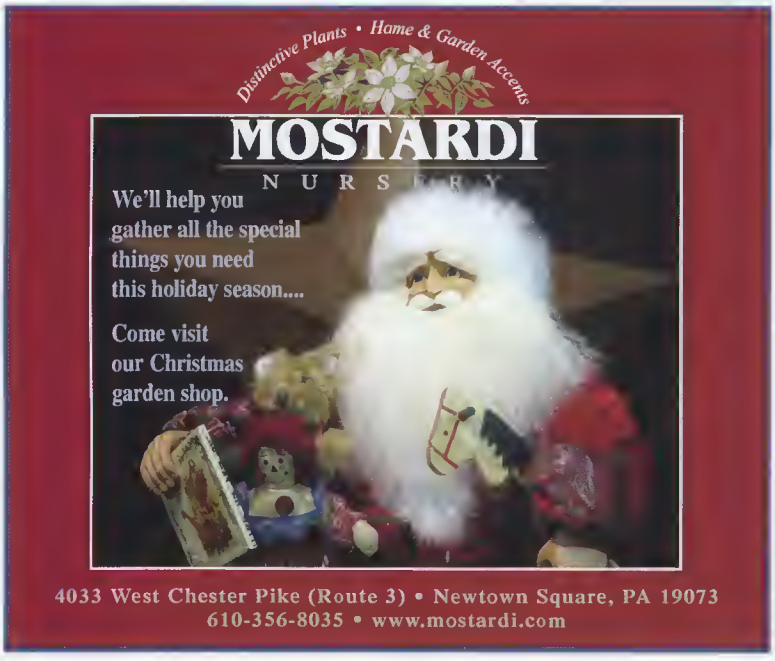
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PHS on Pinterest

FIND FUN PHOTOS AT *pinterest.com/pahortsociety*



What is Pinterest? It's the latest social media innovation that allows users to create virtual bulletin boards online. You can post your favorite pictures, articles, and videos and group them by themes. You can also follow the boards of individuals and organizations you admire. Best of all, it's very visual and intuitive, so you can become a pro in just a few minutes.

We at PHS have jumped onto the Pinterest bandwagon with a colorful site that shares farm-fresh recipes, inspiring floral designs, do-it-yourself tips for home and garden, and much more. Not only do we share our own ideas and pictures, but we scour the web for great content we think you'll like.

New items are posted daily, and new "pin boards" are added regularly to reflect PHS's latest happenings. In the near future, we'll feature exciting Pinterest contests with prizes that include tickets to the 2013 PHS Philadelphia Flower Show.

You can link to us from the red Pinterest icon on the PHS website, or simply join at *pinterest.com* and search for "PA Horticultural." See you online! ■

—Barb Peterson

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